

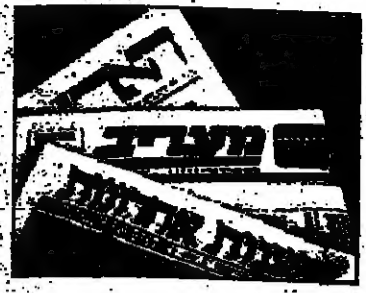
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## Rajoub threatens to shoot violent settlers in PA areas

**By MARGOT DUKKEVITCH and MOHAMMED NAJIB**  
Settlers who enter any Palestinian Authority-controlled area with the intent to harm Palestinians will not leave alive, West Bank Preventive Security Chief Jibril Rajoub warned yesterday.  
"Our people have the right to resist occupation," he told a press conference in Hebron, adding that the Palestinian Police in all PA-controlled areas had been ordered to act against any settlers who

attempt to harm Palestinians. Rajoub also said he was suspending security cooperation with the IDF in Hebron until further notice.  
Rajoub's comments brought angry reactions from Israeli government officials and settlers.  
"Grave threats lead to an escalation and hot-headedness at a time when we all need to concern ourselves with calming the atmosphere," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said.  
"More and more I am getting the impression that the Palestinians do

not want to progress and are rather counting on the Europeans, Americans, or someone else to come and dictate terms more to their liking and thus be saved the elementary thing of a process of direct negotiations in the road to peace."  
Noam Arnon, spokesman for the Hebron Jewish community, said Rajoub's remarks exposed the barbaric and terrorist nature of the PA.  
"Murderers remain murderers, and the bubble of the Hebron Accord illusion has finally burst. I

hope the government will take notice," he charged.  
Aharon Domb, director-general of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza declared that "a terrorist wearing a police uniform remains a terrorist."  
Domb said the council is demanding that the government and security officials sever all links with those who support violence.  
At the Hebron press conference, the bloodstained clothes and personal effects of the three

Palestinians shot by soldiers at the Tarkumiya junction last week were displayed beside the dead men's photos.  
A man who said he was an eyewitness to the Tarkumiya incident insisted the driver of the van had not intended to harm the IDF soldiers at the roadblock.  
He claimed the van was driving slowly and kept going forward till it hit a cement block at the checkpoint. Suddenly, he said, IDF soldiers on both sides opened fire, and later, when the van door opened, two soldiers emptied their

guns inside the vehicle, "finishing off the passengers."  
PA Minister of Information and Culture Yasser Abed Rabbo said the Palestinians do not accept Israel's investigation of the affair and demanded that the two paratroopers involved be tried.  
"We demand a neutral investigation be set up and the soldiers responsible punished," he said, warning that failure by Israel to try the soldiers would be interpreted as encouraging soldiers to continue perpetrating such crimes against the Palestinian people.

"The Tarkumiya incident is for us a crossroad, and we will not remain quiet or accept the formal investigation carried out by the IDF," he charged. "I know of not one Israeli who sits in prison for killing a Palestinian."  
During the press conference, Labor Party MKs Micha Goldmann, Rafi Elul, and Salah Tariff entered the hall and sat down in the first row. They heard Rajoub's statements, but did not react.

See RAJOUB, Page 3

### Document defends Pope Pius XII

## Vatican: We regret errors of Holocaust

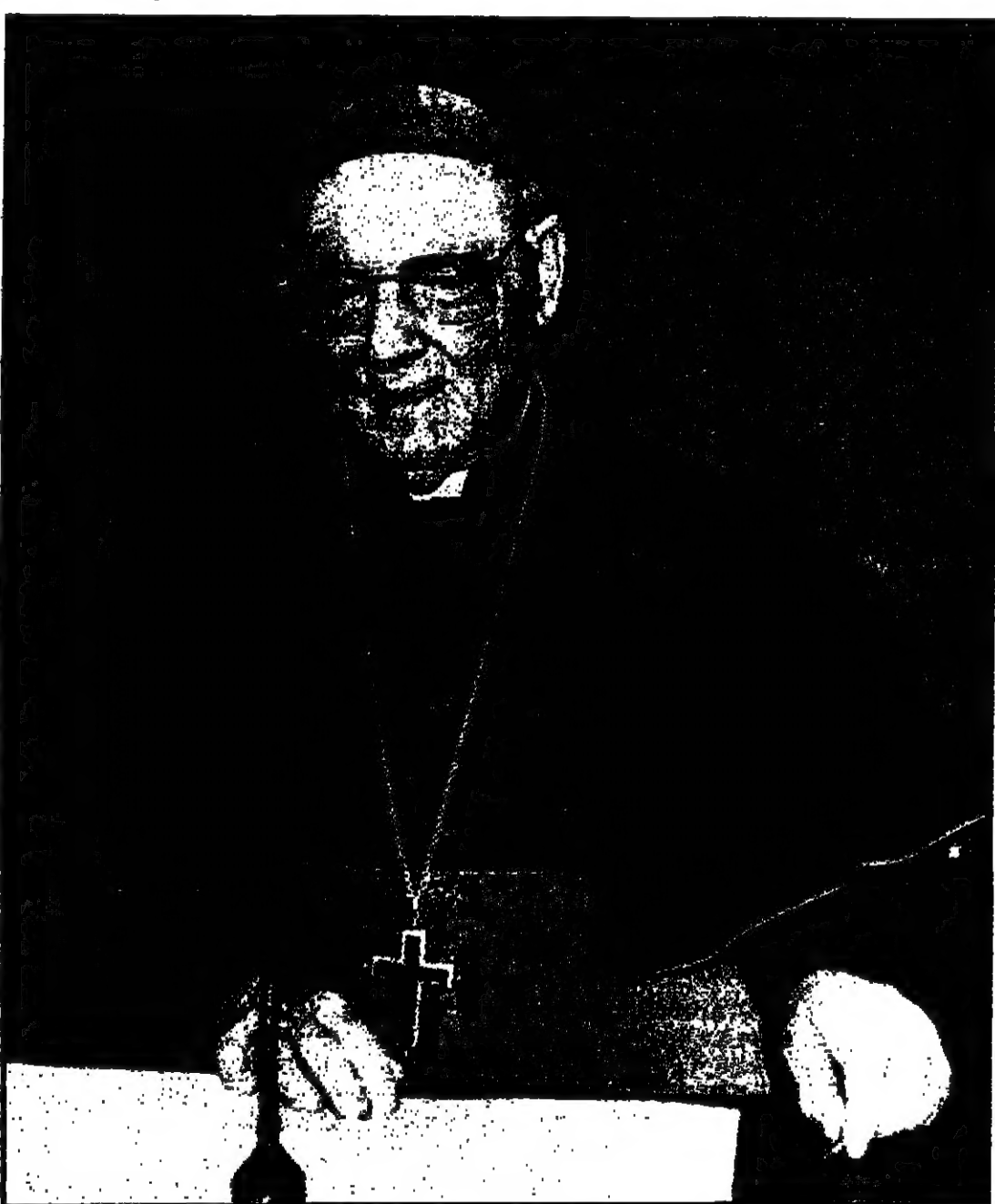
**By LISA PALMER-BELLING and news agencies**  
VATICAN CITY — The Vatican yesterday expressed deep regret for the "errors and failures" of Roman Catholics during the Holocaust, but strongly defended wartime Pope Pius XII, the document promised a decade ago to Jewish groups.  
The document, which praised many Jewish leaders, however, because it stopped short of apologizing for any failures by church leaders, as bishops in several European countries have done in recent years.

time it asks our Jewish friends to hear us with an open heart."  
He said it was "more than a request for pardon. It was 'an act of repentance, of *tshuva* — a word used in the text."  
He said the document was not "a declaration" but rather "another step" for further development.  
In a preface to the document, Pope John Paul II expresses his hope that it will "enable memory to play its part in the process of shaping a future in which the unspeakable iniquity of the Shoah will never again be possible."  
The text concludes: "We pray that our sorrow for the tragedy which the Jewish people has suffered in our century will lead to a new relationship with the Jewish people."  
"The victims from their graves, and the survivors through the vivid testimony of what they have suffered, have become a loud voice calling the attention of all humanity... the spoiled seeds of anti-Semitism and antisemitism must never again be allowed to take root in any human heart."  
The document includes a statement on Pius XII.

"During and after the war, Jewish communities and Jewish leaders expressed their thanks for all that had been done for them, including what Pope Pius XII did personally or through his representatives to save hundreds of thousands of Jewish lives."  
See VATICAN, Page 3

New Vatican document falls short, Page 3

"We Remember: A Reflection on the Shoah" is the title of the 14-page document issued by the Pontifical Commission for Religious Relations with Jews. The long-awaited document had taken over 10 years to produce.  
Cardinal Edward I. Cassidy, president of the commission, said the document was "addressed to the Catholic faithful throughout the world" and hoped that all Christians will meditate "on the catastrophe which befell the Jewish people, on its causes, and on the moral imperative to ensure that never again such a tragedy will happen. At the same



Australian Cardinal Edward Cassidy, president of the Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews, reads from a document released by the Vatican yesterday on the role the Church might have played during the Holocaust. (AP)

## Lau calls apology 'too little too late'

**By HAIM SHAPIRO**  
Israeli leaders yesterday reacted with disappointment to the Vatican statement on the Holocaust, with Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau, an Auschwitz survivor, saying it was "too little and too late."  
Lau praised the establishment of the commission which drew up the document, entitled "We Remember: A Reflection on the Shoah," but he added that the Church should have repeated the prayer traditionally recited by Jews on Yom Kippur: "For the sins which we have committed before You, we are guilty."  
Lau revealed that in a meeting with the Chief Rabbinate in Jerusalem with Cardinal Edward Cassidy, head of the Vatican's Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews, under whose direction the document had been formulated, he had called for a clear statement on the silence of Christianity on the eve of the Holocaust and during the war. Lau said that a large part of the population which carried out the killing and mass destruction had been believing Catholics.

"There is no doubt that a clear condemnation by the Vatican at that time would have had the force to stop the terrible things done during the Holocaust," Lau said.  
He said he recalled from his childhood the anti-Jewish teachings of the Church. Jews had been afraid to walk by churches on Sunday, for fear of encountering those who emerged from anti-Jewish sermons, he said.  
Lau also criticized the failure to mention the silence of Pope Pius XII. Lau noted that the document had only praised him and made no mention of his "papering over" the sins of the Church or of his refusal to meet with the late chief rabbi of Palestine, Yitzhak Herzog.  
"You can't speak of rectifying the past without identifying the actions of individuals," Lau said.  
Rabbi David Rosen, director of the Anti-Defamation League's Israel office and the ADL's co-liaison to the Vatican, welcomed the document as "part of a historic process of self-criticism on the part of the Church of its past teaching and conduct."  
However, he also expressed regret that the document failed to categorically identify the direct link between the Church's historic link between contempt toward the Jews and the cultural climate that facilitated the Holocaust.  
"On the positive side, it is the first official Vatican document to acknowledge Christian guilt, but on the other hand, the document

certainly could have gone further," Rosen said.  
He added that the pope himself had gone further in his apostolic letter, "Tertio Millennio Adveniente," when he spoke of Christian acquiescence, while yesterday's document only asks whether anti-Jewish sentiment among Christians made them less sensitive or even indifferent.  
Of course, Rosen said, the Church cannot say that all Catholics were guilty, but it has to say that the teachings of the Church had a significant role in creating the climate in which the Holocaust took place.  
Itzhak Minerbi, an expert on the Vatican, said that instead of examining the role of the Church and especially of Pope Pius XII, the document chose to place all the responsibility on the faithful sons and daughters of the Church. Minerbi said that the document is far from the last word to be heard on the subject, and it was only the exaggerated hopes of some Jewish organizations that had led people to believe otherwise.  
"This is not the document which will end all disputes about the Shoah," Minerbi said.  
MK Shevah Weiss (Labor), a Holocaust survivor, said that the document is important, but did not erase the papal silence in the dark period of Nazism and Fascism.

See LAU, Page 3

## NOW backs Willey's version of Clinton conduct

**By DEBORAH ZABARENKO**  
WASHINGTON (Reuters) — After weeks of low-key response to the White House sex scandal, the head of one of the top feminist organizations yesterday rallied behind US President Bill Clinton's accuser Kathleen Willey.  
Patricia Ireland, president of the National Organization for Women, called Willey's version of events "very credible" and said Clinton's conduct in the case may verge on sexual assault.  
"This is beyond the idea of the likable rogue or the womanizer and really on to sexual assault, sexual abuse," Ireland said on NBC's Today show yesterday. "It's not verbal harassment, this was an unwanted touching, and I think that's a very serious allegation against the president, along with the allegations of covering that up."  
Willey, a 51-year-old former friend of Clinton, alleged in court papers made public last week that Clinton fondled her breast and placed her hands on his aroused genitalia in a private meeting near the Oval Office in 1993.  
In keeping with a scandal that has been largely played out in the world's media since breaking in January, Willey reiterated her accusations on Sunday in an interview on the CBS program 60 Minutes. For Ireland, Willey's recounting was different from

other accusers' because "unlike other women whose stories have come forward, this is a reluctant witness. This is a woman for whom there is nothing to gain."  
"Other women" have been coming forward on the national scene since Clinton first ran for president in 1992, when he admitted on national television that he had caused pain in his marriage, but dodged questions about lounge singer Gennifer Flowers. He later acknowledged having one sexual encounter with her in 1977.  
Clinton also has denied accusations by Paula Jones that he asked her for oral sex in a Little Rock hotel room in 1991. Jones' sexual harassment suit against Clinton is set for trial in May, and it was this case that prompted sworn statements from Willey and Monica Lewinsky, a former White House intern, who alleged she had a sexual affair with the president.  
Clinton denied any sexual relationship with Lewinsky, now 24, and denied pressuring her to cover anything up. As to Willey, Clinton said he was "mystified and disappointed" by her statements, saying he may have hugged her and kissed her on the forehead, but nothing more.  
Feminists have supported Clinton because of his stance on abortion rights, child care and workplace issues including sexual harassment.

### UK Foreign Sect'y here today

## Naveh to escort Cook to Har Homa

**By JAY BUSHINSKY and news agencies**  
A concerted diplomatic effort yesterday took much of the sting out of British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook's visit, but left a wide gap between the two sides' views of the peace process.  
The main breakthrough that assured the full gamut of official hospitality came when Cook, who

"I would have thought that it would be in the interests of both parties — including the government of Israel — that I were informed by seeing the situation for myself."  
Hussein said that Cook told Palestinians he would tour Har Homa with Israelis, then visit the adjacent neighborhood of Beit Sahur with Palestinians.  
A British Foreign Office spokesman said that although Cook would not meet Hussein at Har Homa, the two would meet elsewhere in eastern Jerusalem.  
"This compromise is not suitable," Hussein said, but added that "if he insists on going with the Israeli officials, he must come out with a statement that the Israelis taking him there represent an occupying force."  
"Israel is trying to place obstacles before a British role and is trying to belittle the importance of the British role in the peace process," he told Reuters.  
Netanyahu, meanwhile, has vowed that Israel will begin construction of the neighborhood, where a tractor was seen clearing a large tract of land yesterday.  
"It has to be clear that, from our point of view, Jerusalem remains and will remain the indisputable, indivisible capital of Israel in which we will build communities for Arabs and Jews alike, including Har Homa," Netanyahu told reporters.  
Government officials also rejected Cook's reported advocacy of an IDF withdrawal in the West Bank which would involve handing 20 percent of Area B and 20% of Area C over to the PA.

See COOK, Page 2

Graffiti sprayed on British Consulate, Page 2

arrives today, agreed to be escorted to the Har Homa construction site by cabinet secretary Dan Naveh and the Jerusalem Municipality's Amos Radian, instead of by the Palestinian Authority's Faisal Hussein.  
"This is unobjectionable," said David Bar-Ilan, communications adviser to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.  
But Bar-Ilan still considers Cook's choice of Har Homa as his first stop in Israel "puzzling." He contended that it might have been more appropriate had Cook gone to Yad Vashem or the Western Wall "as his first act on his first visit to Jerusalem as Great Britain's foreign secretary."  
On his way to Cairo at the start of his Mideast tour, Cook said he was determined to go ahead with the visit to Har Homa. In London, a spokesman for Prime Minister Tony Blair said the British leader stood behind Cook.  
"I am anxious to see Har Homa for myself," Cook told reporters.

## ESPN Prime Sports off TV screens today

**By ORI LEWIS**  
Remember today, March 17. For it is a black day in the annals of Israeli communications history as ESPN Prime Sports is taken off the air.  
There was hardly a murmur of the event before the news — nothing short of devastating — broke yesterday.  
Sports lovers in Israel, who only recently had this channel included in the cable TV package, will now once again be unable to see many of the events which they left behind in their native lands.  
The channel, whose main target viewing area is the Indian Subcontinent and all points east,

concentrates mainly on cricket, but there is no shortage of other live and recorded events such as NBA, NFL, US college sports, rugby, golf, soccer, motor racing of various kinds, and other events.  
Gustavo Treiber, head of the Israel Cable TV Association (ICTA), said yesterday it was the channel's new owners, ESPN, who had decided to discontinue the satellite feed to the Middle East, and that from now on the channel would be broadcast only in Asia.  
"It's all a matter of rights, and ESPN is not interested in broadcasting to this area," said Treiber.

See ESPN, Page 2

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## NEWS

in brief

### IDF admits soldier shot Palestinian

A reserve officer admitted to shooting at Palestinian rioters near Tekoa on Sunday night that resulted in the injury of Mohammed Ammor. The IDF Spokesman said that following an investigation it found that an reserve officer fired toward rioting Palestinians. In addition, troops at the site fired rubber bullets and one soldier fired shots in the air to disperse the rioters, who had stoned the IDF troops. The IDF Spokesman said the Military Police would carry out an investigation. On Sunday night, the IDF Spokesman told reporters that IDF troops had not fired shots in the area when Ammor was injured.

Margot Dudkevitch

### Ten remanded for mugging elderly women

A 17-year-old was remanded for a week in Jerusalem Magistrate's Court yesterday on suspicion of mugging elderly women after they withdrew cash from an ATM machine in the city's Neve Ya'acov neighborhood. The teen allegedly stood behind elderly women at the machine and, if they withdrew substantial amounts of cash, would follow them and rob them. After several complaints, police detectives stalked out the site and caught the youth redhanded. The teen told investigators he has no connection to the robberies.

Itim

### Rehovot man commits suicide

A 21-year-old Rehovot man committed suicide yesterday in the home of his parents. A suicide note found next to his body said he decided to end his life after he was released from the army due to illness. The police said its initial investigation indicated that the man shot himself with a rifle issued to him as a member of the Civil Guard, and that there had been no indications he had been distressed.

Itim

### MDA crew assists in complicated birth

On the way to Tel Aviv's Ichilov Hospital, a Magen David Adom ambulance pulled off the road because its pregnant passenger couldn't wait to give birth. The MDA crew assisted in the birth, which was more complicated than usual because the umbilical cord was wrapped around the baby's neck. "We unwound the umbilical cord and then the baby began to breathe and we brought the mother and child to Ichilov Hospital in good condition," medic Uri Levin said.

Itim

### Man given 8 years for sexually assaulting son

The Haifa District Court yesterday sentenced a Hadera man who sexually assaulted his 10-year-old son last year to eight years in prison, with a two year suspended sentence.

His wife, who had first reported the abuse, asked the court for a lenient sentence, because his lost income would put the family in a difficult financial situation.

Itim

## Most US Jews still back PM on peace process

By MARILYN HENRY

A majority of American Jews still support Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's handling of the peace process, have declining confidence in Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat, and believe the PLO is not doing enough to control terrorism, according to a poll released yesterday by the American Jewish Committee.

More than two-thirds favor US pressure on Arafat to advance the peace process, but a slim majority opposes pressure on Netanyahu, according to the AJC's "1998 Annual Survey of American Jewish Opinion."

The survey interviewed a representative sample of 1,001 self-identified adult American Jews

between February 19 and March 8.

Fifty-six percent of those surveyed said they support Netanyahu's current handling of the peace negotiations, while 34% said they opposed it.

By contrast, last year, 61 percent of American Jews said they supported Netanyahu's handling of the peace process, while 24 percent were opposed.

When asked "How would you characterize relations between Israel and the United States today?" 14% said "very positive," 70% "somewhat positive," 14% "somewhat negative," and 1% "very negative."

In 1997, the figures were 23% "very positive," 67% "somewhat positive," and 9% "somewhat negative."

## Lawyers for victims wrap up Papon case

By NICOLAS MARINÉ

BORDEAUX (AP) — Lawyers for Holocaust victims and their families yesterday wrapped up their case against Maurice Papon, with one calling the former cabinet minister "an impostor without a soul or a conscience."

Papon was a "link in the criminal chain," said lawyer Alain Levy. He said there is no difference between Papon and Klaus Barbie, the Gestapo chief known as the "Butcher of Lyon."

"What a liar!" Papon exclaimed at the end of Levy's argument.

It was the last day of marathon final arguments by some two dozen lawyers representing victims and their families. The state prosecution makes its case later this week, and Papon is to wrap up his defense next week.

Papon, chief police inspector for the Bordeaux region during World War II and later a budget minister, is the highest-ranking official of the pro-Nazi Vichy regime to stand trial for complicity in crimes against humanity. He is accused of signing arrest orders that led to the deportation of 1,690 Jews from Bordeaux. They later died in Auschwitz. Papon maintains he had no major power and was just

following orders he received from his boss, Maurice Sabatier, the prefect of Bordeaux during the war.

He also claims he helped the French Resistance during the war — a claim some lawyers have tried to disprove.

Levy told the court that the Jewish Affairs department, "under the authority of Maurice Papon, directed everything, from the documentation to the gathering of the deportees." Trying to show Papon's zeal, he added that to beef up the convoys, Papon and his colleagues deported people of nationalities that, under terms specified by the Nazis, weren't required to be there.

Referring to Papon's claim that he didn't know about the Final Solution, Levy recalled the horrible conditions of French transports and transit camps and said: "Maurice Papon knew that the Jews were going to their deaths. If he didn't know about industrialized death, he knew about mass death."

Papon responded: "You are the coward and the liar!" That prompted Judge Jean-Louis Castagnede to remind him that he is not allowed to speak until the last day of his trial.

The trial, now in its sixth month, is expected to end late next week.

# Graffiti sprayed on UK Consulate in protest against Cook's visit

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER

Graffiti against British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook was spray painted on the walls of the British Consulate in Jerusalem overnight Sunday, police said yesterday.

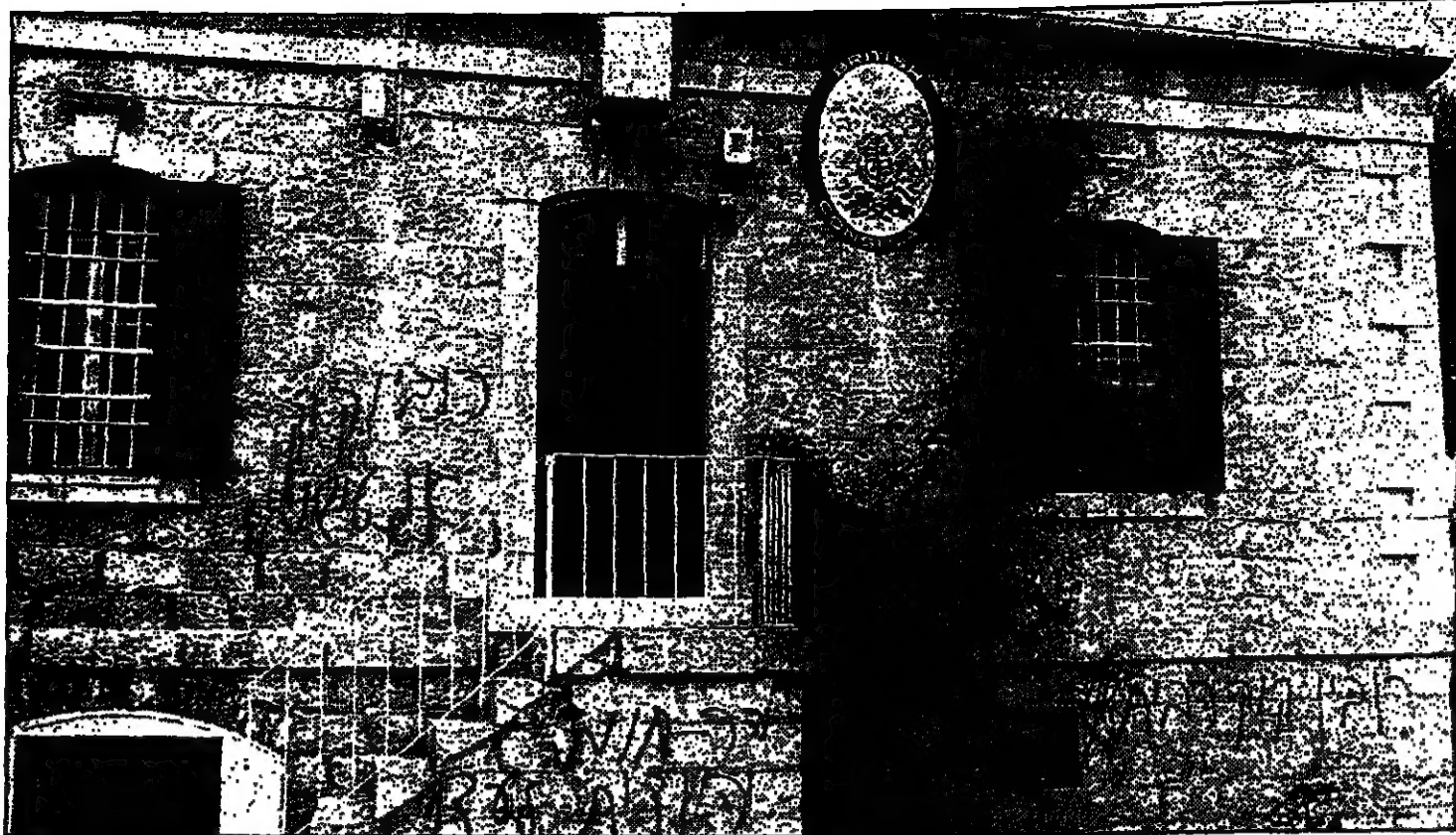
"Robin Cook is an antisemite," "Robin Cook go home," and "Har Homa is Jewish forever!" were written on the walls of the consulate branch near the Jerusalem train station.

The graffiti was in response to Cook's plan to tour Har Homa when he visits today.

He had said at first that he would visit the site together with Palestinian Authority Minister for Jerusalem Affairs Faisal Husseini, but later recanted and said he would make a private visit to the controversial site.

Reacting to the graffiti, the British Consulate issued a statement saying it "regretted that some people have to express themselves that way, especially since the purpose of Cook's visit is to advance the peace process."

A British official was quoted as saying, "It's a regrettable thing which no doubt we'll have to clear up sometime, but it is not scaring the wits out of us."



Graffiti calling British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook an antisemite appears at the entrance to the UK Consulate in Jerusalem yesterday (Itim Harni)

## PM: We're ready for Lebanon pullout

By LIAT COLLINS and BAT SHEVA TSUR

Israel is ready to withdraw immediately from Lebanon if all aspects of UN Security Council Resolution 425 are upheld, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said yesterday.

"We plan to hold a thorough debate on the responsibility of Lebanon in this regard, in the cabinet," Netanyahu said, at a meeting of the Knesset State Control Committee's subcommittee on security affairs.

"Israel is ready in every way to withdraw — on condition that Lebanon upholds the basis of [UN Resolution] 425, which means that there must be international security and peace. If this is not upheld, we will not withdraw."

Committee member Uzi Landau (Likud) said he was in favor of a "step-by-step" evacuation from Lebanon as proposed by National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon. He said that "small parts" of the security zone — preferably the areas that are furthest from the Israeli border — could be evacuated and returned to Lebanese control. The Lebanese attitude toward Israel and its allies should then be examined before the next step is decided upon, he said. However, he cautioned that Israel should not have its hands tied by "Oslo-type" dates for a withdrawal.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai yesterday repeated his pledge to try to find a way for Israel to withdraw from south Lebanon under UN Security Council Resolution 425.

"I am making an effort to gain the help of other countries in the world, first and foremost the US, France and the UN secretary-general — anybody who will find a way to reach an agreement — based on the Lebanese Army and government taking responsibility and preserving the rights of the south Lebanese residents," Mordechai told parliamentary reporters as he left the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

"I suggest that we not be tempted for one minute to think that anything has been concluded," he added. "We are at the beginning of a process. I don't know how long it will take. And I can't today predict what the results will be."

At the committee meeting, Mordechai reportedly clarified that he was not suggesting bringing foreign forces into south Lebanon, but deploying the Lebanese Army there. He stressed that there would not be a unilateral withdrawal until the Lebanese agreed to take control there.

Mordechai said the key to his plan is Syria.

A senior IDF Intelligence officer concurred, saying that in both the Arab world and the international arena, Syria is considered the body which brought stability to Lebanon and President Hafez Assad sees his control there as a personal and historic achievement. The officer also said that Syria has for a long time linked the Israeli withdrawal from south Lebanon with the Golan Heights issue. He said the Syrians see Israel's attempt to reach an agreement on Lebanon as an attempt to divide Syria and Lebanon and that the Lebanese see it as an Israeli attempt to bypass Damascus.

Ariel O'Sullivan adds: South Lebanese Army commander Gen. Antoine Lahad will be meeting this morning in Tel Aviv with Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai. Defense officials insist this is a routine meeting and that Mordechai and Lahad will discuss the latest positions regarding an Israeli withdrawal from south Lebanon.

Lahad often visits the Tel Aviv Defense Ministry, but Mordechai's media adviser took a rare step by opening today's meeting to the press.

Defense sources yesterday totally rejected reports in the Israeli press that Lahad, who has been sentenced to death in Beirut for collaboration, has made Paris his home.

"He goes there from time to time, but to say that he was setting up shop there is completely and utterly false," the source said.

### COOK

Continued from Page 1

They charged that this view is identical to that of the PA. Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani said a pullback of this magnitude "would be a direct blow to Israel's security."

He contended that it would entail withdrawals from part of the Jordan Valley and the heights overlooking Ben-Gurion Airport. In an address to students at Jerusalem's Potinsky High School, Kahalani said he favors an evacuation of "between 5% and 10%" of the areas in question.

Speaking in his capacity as chairman of The Third Way, Kahalani said the American proposal, under which 13% of the West Bank would be given up, is also detrimental to national security.

Upon arrival this afternoon, Cook's first stop will be Gaza, where he will meet with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat. He then will proceed to Har Homa.

After that, he will meet with President Ezer Weizman and Defense Minister Yitzhak

Mordechai. In the evening, he will meet Netanyahu at the Prime Minister's Office.

The British Embassy in Tel Aviv announced that Cook will be discussing the peace process, Iraq, "and other regional issues," as well as bilateral relations with Netanyahu and Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

"The search for a way to reinvigorate the peace process is one of the key foreign policy priorities for the UK's European Union presidency," the embassy said.

Cook is being accompanied on his trip by EU peace envoy Miguel Moratinos.

"The UK is increasingly concerned by the continuing stalemate in the negotiations and the risk that this poses to the future of the process and to wider regional stability," the statement went on.

The controversy that raged on the eve of Cook's arrival evidently prompted extremist vandals apparently linked to the Kach movement to scribble graffiti on the exterior walls of the British Consulate in Jerusalem. Slogans that defaced the building termed Cook an "antisemite" and proclaimed "Har Homa is Jewish forever."

## Livnat appeals to US for Pollard release

By BAT SHEVA TSUR

As part of the stepped-up government campaign to secure Jonathan Pollard's release, Communications Minister Limor Livnat last night called on the US to allow the convicted spy to come to Israel.

US Ambassador Edward Walker sat in the audience at the Jerusalem Theater alongside some 500 members of the Hadassah "Miracle Mission" group, which was concluding a week-long visit here, as Livnat made an impassioned plea at the end of her address.

"I must make a point of mentioning the plight of one Jew, Jonathan Pollard, especially in

the presence of the US ambassador," she said. "Jonathan has said that what he did was wrong. He has expressed deep remorse, but the fact of the matter is that after 12 years in prison, he has been punished more than any other person in American history for his crime."

"It is time to let him out," she said. "A presidential pardon now would not be seen as a compromise. It would serve the cause of justice. It would be a humanitarian gesture. Most of all, Mr. Walker — and I urge you to convey this to the White House — enabling Jonathan Pollard to come to live in Israel with his wife is the right thing to do."

Livnat's words received a warm

ovation from the audience and Hadassah president Marlene Post expressed admiration for her leadership. Last year Livnat followed the lead of Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein and visited Pollard in his Butner, North Carolina prison.

Last night Livnat also said she could see "no finer gift to Israel for its fiftieth anniversary" than relocating the US Embassy to Jerusalem.

Walker did not respond to Livnat's remarks in his address.

Meanwhile, MK Ophir Pines (Labor) head of the Knesset lobby for Pollard, yesterday distributed letters to MKs calling on them to visit Pollard in jail. He said such a visit could be coordinated by him or by the Foreign Ministry.

## Helicopter airmen buried

By ARIEN O'SULLIVAN

The two airmen who died in the Cobra helicopter crash, Brig.-Gen. Shmuel Eldar and Lt. Ian Gur, were laid to rest yesterday in funerals attended by thousands, including the nation's and IDF's top leaders.

Navy divers, aided by an underwater robot, recovered their bodies around midnight Sunday, over 14 hours after their attack helicopter split up and crashed into the sea northeast of Herzliya.

Navy and air force personnel continued to search for and pull wreckage of the helicopter from the sea. But due to the sand storms and high seas, it was not possible to recover the main body of the Cobra, Channel 1 said.

OC Air Force Maj.-Gen. Eitan Ben-Eliyahu yesterday appointed reserve colonel Israel Yahlom, a former commander of Palmachim Air Base, as head of the internal inquiry into the accident.

Air force officials still believe it was a technical malfunction that caused the crash, and the IAF's Cobras are still grounded.

Contact was made with Bell, the US company which manufactured the Cobra, to try to determine whether the malfunction could be symptomatic of the whole fleet.

"As of this moment," said Yoni Gil, representative of Bell in Israel, "there has never been anything like this in the history" of the Cobra.

"There has never been a mal-

function where the tail actually broke off," Gil added in an interview on "Erev Hadash."

Gil, a retired IAF colonel and former commander of the Palmachim Air Base, said the Cobra was a strong and dependable aircraft.

Former IAF commander David Ivry said that despite the accidents the force has suffered, the IAF had one of the best safety records in the world.

"We are in a very good place in the world," Ivry said, but noted that safety criteria vary from country to country.

"I think our situation in general is very good. But we shouldn't be satisfied with this. To the contrary. We have to constantly seek ways to reduce accidents. I think the air force does this," Ivry said.

Ivry, who lost his son Gil in an air force accident, said that crashes like this one usually were found to be the result of "tired material."

"The first thing that has to be done is to look for cracks or worn-out material," Ivry said.

Ivry said the air force should be concerned over the increase in the number of training accidents.

"Whoever isn't concerned won't repair themselves," Ivry said. "The air force is right now in the eye of the storm."

Eldar had served with Ivry on the inquiry commission investigating the collision of two transport helicopters last year in which 73 servicemen were killed.

Eldar was laid to rest at Rehovot's military cemetery in a funeral attended by so many people that crowds could not fit inside the grounds.

Among those attending were President Ezer Weizman, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin Shahak. Ben-Eliyahu eulogized Eldar, 45, as a calm commander he could rely on.

"I don't want to eulogize you or say good-bye to you," Ben-Eliyahu said. "I want to tell you to go on and keep filling your roles." In Kibbutz Malkiya, thousands of people attended the funeral of Gur, who was just 21 and had earned his wings only two months before he was killed.

His mother Shoshana was supported at his grave-side by his brother Gali. He was eulogized by both Ben-Eliyahu and Deputy Chief of General Staff Maj.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz.

Batsheva Tsur adds:

"In the past few days we have lost some of our best pilots," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said at a meeting of the Knesset's State Control Committee's subcommittee on security affairs. "We are carrying out all possible investigations, but this will not return them to us and their families. These were real quality people who made a great contribution to the air force and the IDF and their loss causes deep pain to the nation, as well as to their family and friends."

### ESPN

Continued from Page 1

"We had an agreement with the Star TV network, but since ESPN took over their priorities have changed, and Israel is no longer a target area for their broadcasts."

Treiber said that alternatives, including showing some of the programs on Channel 5, are being looked at, and the possibility of obtaining another satellite sports channel is also being mulled, but nothing has yet been finalized.

One thing is certain, however. The hours of cricket, rugby, and golf have gone for the foreseeable future. While it may be technically feasible to pick up the broadcasts even after they were encrypted at 2 a.m. today, it would be illegal to do so.

Treiber said it would even be illegal for an individual to receive

the broadcasts with privately-owned equipment.

Treiber said that although he feels for the viewers who will miss out on these sports, according to a telephone poll of 22,410 households last month, only four were watching Star, compared to 111 viewing Eurosport and 637 glued to Channel 5.

In a letter to Zvi Hauser, the Communication Ministry's Cable TV Council chairman, Israel

Cricket Association chairman Stanley Perlman urged the intervention of the ministry to get the channel back on the air.

"On behalf of 1,250,000 Israeli lovers of sport (other than soccer and basketball), I appeal to you to negotiate with Star Sports or with Sky Sports so that viewers in Israel can watch their favorite sports again. I cannot begin to describe the anguish that these fans will now suffer."

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Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau (right) chats with some of those who attended yesterday's press conference on the new Vatican document on the Holocaust.

## Vatican document falls short

"We Remember: A Reflection on the Shoah" is the title of the document published yesterday by the Vatican's Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews.

This is not a document which will close the debate between Jews and the Catholic Church about the deeds or lack of deeds by the Church to save Jews during World War II.

In his cover letter Pope John Paul II places this document in the frame of preparations for the third millennium, hopes that it will indeed help to heal the

wounds of past misunderstandings and healings" and that "the Shoah will never again be possible."

But the document itself is rather disappointing because it does not deal at all with the responsibility of the Church as an institution or of Pius XII, the pope who kept silent about the persecutions of the Jews during World War II.

The document duly states that the Shoah took place in

Europe "in countries of long-standing Christian civilization" and deep sorrow is expressed

for the failure of the Church's sons and daughters in every age, but the Church as such is above

any criticism. So is Pius XII, who appears together with his predecessor Pius XI, and who warned "against theories which denied the unity of the human race and against the deification of the state." Pius XII is also

recalled for receiving the thanks of Jewish communities for what he "did personally or through his representatives to save hundreds of thousands of Jewish lives."

Nazism is depicted as a neopagan regime and its anti-Semitism "had its roots outside of Christianity." The Church, it is stated, "condemns all forms of genocide," like the massacre of the Armenians, the victims in Ukraine, the genocide of the Gypsies. So in a document totally dedicated to the Shoah, its uniqueness is questioned.

### ANALYSIS

BY BENJAMIN KATZ

## HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

BY ORLY AHARONI

### Quo vadis?

The Lebanese issue became the main focus of the Hebrew press, following National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon's initiative supporting a unilateral withdrawal, independent of Syria. Sharon's suggestion "challenges" Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai's proposal. Commentators agree that the debate over the issue is positive, but the implementation could take time.

Ma'ariv's Ofer Shaleh claims that withdrawal from Lebanon has turned into a national consensus. "Physically, we should be patient; mentally, Israel has already withdrawn from Lebanon."

"The recent outburst of creativity on the Lebanese issue is one of the more positive phenomena that have occurred lately in the Israeli and Middle Eastern landscape," states Yediot Aharonot's Ron Ben-Yishai, who adds that if Israel manages to simultaneously act on the diplomatic front and redeploy its forces in Lebanon, "it is possible that in the next six months to a year, the picture in southern Lebanon will be different for the better."

Relating to Sharon's proposal, he says that it could lead to a general conflict with the Syrians.

Ha'aretz's Ze'ev Schiff claims that if Sharon's proposal is accepted, it will hinder negotiations with the Syrians and the Golan Heights issue will be pushed aside.

Uri Daromi in Ma'ariv believes that "we are burying our heads in

the sand" when disregarding Syria's role in the success of a withdrawal. "However, the least we can do is unilaterally withdraw from Lebanon... and as for the Syrian landlord, he must be warned that if he does not restrain his messengers, we will hurt his interests in Lebanon."

Yediot's Shmuel Barnea writes that "according" to Sharon, "Mordechai's plan leads to nothing, or to a general Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights," adding that the debate, therefore, focuses not only on peace in the Golan Heights but mainly on the fate of the Golan Heights.

### Extreme settlers

"In order to avoid any misunderstandings: The 30 Hebron settlers who invaded the Abu Sneh neighborhood in order to provoke riots are not wretched Jews nor loyal patriots," writes Ma'ariv's Yosef Lapid. They are "thugs and provocateurs." Lapid claims that after the Palestinians and IDF managed to calm down the events following the Tarkumiya junction shooting, the extreme settlers were discouraged by the fact that IDF will not reoccupy Hebron.

Elyakim Ha'etzi in Yediot protests against the blame bestowed on the group of settlers, claiming that their move was a reaction to their being attacked from Abu Sneh.

Ha'aretz's Uzi Benziman criticizes the government's reluctance to

remove the group of extremists which constitutes an "island of provocation in the heart of Hebron." He adds that the government's restraint could lead to anarchy.

Anat Gov in Yediot ponders the silence of the settlers who do not rebel against the extreme group among them, that chooses to represent them before the entire world: "How did we let this happen? How did a small and obscure group of beatniks and killer lovers manage to control our national agenda, slowly and securely leading us to ruin," she asks.

### Resurrecting 'Tekuma'

The controversy around Channel 1's series Tekuma, and the demand to take it off the air on the grounds that it distorts Zionism and identifies with the Palestinians, "is an indication of our lack of confidence in our own righteousness, 50 years after the establishment of the state," declares Ha'aretz's Gideon Levy.

He adds that the presentation of the truth from the Palestinian standpoint could have been "not only a rare opportunity to enrich the mind intellectually, but also an opportunity to test our true strength."

Prof. Ze'ev Tzohar in Yediot claims that broadcasting the series was risky because it deals with controversial issues.

"Whoever feels that the representation damages his own truth can console himself that it will not be the last version... the best [version] will always remain controversial."

denied the unity of the human race and against the deification of the state," and which could all lead to a real "hour of darkness."

"The document rings hollow," said Abraham Foxman, US national director of the Anti-Defamation League. "It is an apology full of rationalization for Pope Pius XII and the Church. It takes very little moral and historical responsibility for the Church's historic teaching for the contempt of Jews. It talks about the past in question marks rather than providing answers."

"We are perplexed how the Vatican, under the leadership of Pope John Paul II, could have finalized a document that lags behind the unequivocal statements of the German and French bishops."

Last fall, French bishops apologized for their silence during the deportation of Jews, and German bishops have said that the Church did not do enough to fight Nazism and condemn the Holocaust.

Rabbi David Rosen, director of the ADL's Israel office welcomed the Vatican's reflection on the Shoah as "part of a historic process of self-criticism on the part of the Church of its past teaching and conduct."

But he expressed "regret that the document has not gone as far as the pope himself," noting that the document was a step backwards from the pope's apostolic letter, "Tertio Millennio Adveniente."

Paragraph 36 of the letter speaks of the "acquiescence shown by many Christians concerning the violation of fundamental human

rights by totalitarian regimes."

The Shoah document asks only, "Did anti-Jewish sentiment among Christians make them less sensitive, or even indifferent, to the persecutions launched against the Jews by National Socialism when it reached power?" Rabbi Mark Wiener, chief rabbi of the West London Synagogue, said, "There are positive aspects, but the Shoah document is weak in a number of areas. It obviously had to be filtered through the more conservative elements of the Curia, which are far behind the pope himself."

"Now there must be a massive thrust for opening the archives on World War II," Wiener said.

But Tullia Zevi, president of the Federation of Italian Jewish Communities, called the document "an important step forward in the right direction."

"The Church is slow moving," she said. "One must know its language, and if it speaks of teshuva this means it recognizes its past errors." Regarding the Jewish testimonies in support of Pius XII, she said, "These were given in 1945, before people could get a view of the general picture. But I don't know why people expect the Church to speak against Pius XII if the Church is calling for teshuva, this itself means that not everything was right under Pius XII's papacy." The Australian Cardinal Cassidy defended his commission's work.

"It's more than an apology. We feel we need to repent... for those members of our church who failed" to do enough, he said.

# New Catholic line on the Holocaust

## BACKGROUND

By HAIM SHAPIRO

In the Catholic dialogue with the Jewish people, the Vatican has dealt with theology in Nostra Aetate. It has dealt with the State of Israel by reaching an agreement and establishing diplomatic relations; and it hopes to resolve the issue of the Holocaust with yesterday's document, "We Remember: A Reflection on the Shoah."

This is the view of Dr. Geoffrey Wigoder, one of the two Israeli representatives on the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations with Christians (IJCIC). Although Wigoder was quick to note that the document said many important things, he said it also has some obvious shortcomings.

He noted that he was present as the Israeli representative when Paul John Paul II received a Jewish delegation in 1987. It was just after the pope had received Kurt Waldheim, he recalled, and there was a tremendous Jewish reaction, especially in the US. Since the pope was about to visit America, there were fears in the Vatican that the issue would overshadow the visit.

It was a private meeting at the pope's summer residence at Castel Gandolfo and it was the first such meeting, Wigoder recalled, at which there was an actual conversation and not set speeches. It was the Jewish representatives who suggested that the Vatican issue a statement on the Holocaust and a condemnation of antisemitism.

Although the pope endorsed the idea, there followed a three- or four-year delay because of the dispute over the convent at Auschwitz, during which IJCIC cut off its dialogue with the

Vatican. Then, Wigoder added, there were six or seven years during which the Vatican dragged its feet. In the meantime, there was at least one major leak of a draft of what Jewish groups hoped might be the final statement.

That draft eventually emerged as a statement by German Catholic bishops, which acknowledged the guilt of German Catholics whose acquiescence allowed Hitler to perpetrate the Holocaust. The statement said that anti-Jewish attitudes in their church prompted "Christians in the years of the Third Reich not to put up the necessary resistance to racist antisemitism. Catholics have much denial and guilt."

A similar statement was issued by the Polish Council of Bishops. In the following years there came statements, albeit not as far-reaching, by the American bishops, the Hungarians, and the Dutch. The most recent such statement came from the French Council of Bishops, expressing repentance for its silence during the Holocaust.

Wigoder said he is convinced that the statement released yesterday had been drafted a year or two ago, but had no doubt been circulated throughout the curia and modified as a result of what he called "internal considerations."

He recalled that when the pope had issued a statement last year on the Hebrew Scriptures, there had immediately been reactions. In addition, he said, what could be described as "conservative Catholic

theological attitudes" probably led to sensitivity to every word and line.

As for the text, Wigoder noted that some Jewish observers had expected a condemnation of Pius XII, something which he said will never happen. Others, he said, had expected an apology to the Jewish people, which might have been expected, considering the statement of the French bishops and the fact that the pope himself in 1990 said that the Church has to do teshuva. In yesterday's document, he said, Christians are called to repentance for the deeds of their "brothers and sisters," but not the Church.

What has appeared from the document, he said, is a new Catholic line which first came to light at the conference on antisemitism organized by the Vatican. The pope said that in the Christian world, but not on the part of the Church itself, there were erroneous interpretations of the New Testament regarding the Jewish people. In the document, Wigoder said, the line is that it is not the Church that was to blame, but individuals who fell short of the Christian ideal.

"This flies in the face of history," Wigoder said, noting it was the Church fathers themselves who interpreted the New Testament in an anti-Jewish manner; it was the Church councils which ruled against the Jews; and it was the Jews themselves who drove the Jews out of civilized life, locking them up in ghettos.

In contrast, Wigoder noted the French bishops, who said that "the Church which we proclaim as holy and we honor as a mystery is also a sinful Church and in need of conversion." Such a view seems to be rejected by the document, he said.

## LAU

Continued from Page 1

He added that he is full of appreciation for the righteous gentiles.

However, he also expressed the Jewish disillusionment with all of European civilization and Christianity. "Europe was a lake of frozen Jewish blood. On this continent of Beethoven, Goethe, and the French Revolution, the ideas of humanism, Christianity, and rationalism and the fruits of the French Revolution were terribly broken."

Lot Collins contributed to this report.

## RAJOUB

Continued from Page 1

Goldman said the three had paid a condolence visit to relatives of the slain Palestinians and had attended the press conference to prove that Israel wants peace.

Rajoub referred to last Friday's incidents in Hebron's Abu Sneh neighborhood, when some 30 settlers stormed into the area, which is under Palestinian control, and smashed car windshields and stoned Palestinians, after shots had been fired at the Jewish Quarter hours before.

"This is our red line," he declared and claimed some 100 Palestinians were injured during riots that ensued.

Meanwhile, Hebron police said none of the settlers who were summoned for questioning regarding last Friday's events in Abu Sneh, which involved violating an order declaring the area a closed military zone, had shown up.

Police said if they do not, they will be forced to seek warrants for the settlers' arrest. MK Amnon Rubinstein (Meretz) demanded that Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein investigate the viola-

tions of the law committed by the Hebron settlers.

Rubinstein said violent people who attack Palestinians and damage their property should be brought to justice and treated like any other citizen who violates the law.

After receiving strong protests from settlers, the Prime Minister's Office asked the Foreign Ministry to amend a cable which had been sent to Israeli missions abroad regarding the recent disturbances in Hebron, to add that the disturbances began after shots were fired at the Hebron Jewish community from the Abu Sneh neighborhood.

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## Nativ's secret activities to end

By BAT-SHEVA TSUR

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has reportedly given orders to stop the clandestine activities of Nativ in the former Soviet Union and for the organization to concentrate solely on matters connected with aliyah.

This decision, which is in line with demands voiced by the Mossad and General Security Service, emerged yesterday at a closed meeting of the Knesset State Control Committee's subcommittee on security affairs.

The prime minister was reporting back to State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat and subcommittee members Yossi Katz (Labor) and Uzi Landau (Likud) on the secret section of Ben-Porat's highly critical report on Nativ.

Also present at the meeting were Nativ head Ya'acov Kedmi, who came under fire in the report's public part, and senior security officials including Col. Shimon Shapira, acting military aide to the premier.

Netanyahu said he had appointed Industry and Trade Minister Nathan Sharansky to implement the decisions of a government committee consisting of the various bodies involved in the subject and headed by a senior officer. The idea, Netanyahu stressed, is to completely reorganize Nativ.

Katz, who previously called for Kedmi's dismissal, said he is not sure the Nativ head would be able to implement the reorganization. Kedmi reportedly replied that if he could not live with the recommendations, he would put the good of the state before his personal aspirations.



Support from Sara

Sara Netanyahu welcomes a group of young people with Down's syndrome to the prime minister's residence for a meeting yesterday sponsored by the Yated association for children with Down's syndrome. (Liat Collins)

## Shahal's 27-year career as MK ends tomorrow

By BAT-SHEVA TSUR

Moshe Shahal will retire from the Knesset tomorrow after 27 years as an MK.

Shahal, who has threatened several times in the past to leave the House in favor of his private legal practice in Haifa, surprised his colleagues yesterday when he announced his retirement from politics at the Labor party faction meeting in the Knesset.

"The internal contradictions in the new parliamentary system are not to my liking," said Shahal, who is also a former police, communications and energy minister. "The new structure does not suit my character."

Shahal asked that his friends "not deliver the usual eulogies... I want to quote what is written under a sundial in Pisa," he said. "I count the years of light."

Shimon Peres, who said he was surprised by the suddenness of the announcement, said he knew that "80 MKs are needed to dismiss a prime minister, but I thought that 80 signatures would be sufficient to prevent [Shahal] from leaving."

He was referring to a cross-party petition from MKs to Shahal to remain on as an MK after he announced his intention earlier. Labor faction chairman Elie Goldschmidt described Shahal as

"one of the best - if not the best - parliamentarians in Israel... This is the opinion of all the factions," he said, "because they all signed, begging him to remain."

He said that, whenever in doubt, Labor Party Chairman Ehud Barak suggested consulting Shahal on how things should be done. "This is a very sad day for us," he said.

Taiba Mayor Rafik Haj Yihye, who is next on the Labor list, will replace Shahal.

## Peretz kicks Meretz out of Histadrut coalition

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Histadrut Chairman Amir Peretz yesterday broke up his coalition by ejecting Meretz from the leadership, following its forming a rival list with Geshet for the Histadrut elections in June.

"After a four-year partnership, Meretz is creating a bad atmosphere which is making it impossible for the Histadrut to function," Peretz said. "Instead of looking out for the workers' interests, all Meretz is occupied with is its chances in the Knesset elections."

Meretz was part of the New Life faction

formed by MK Haim Ramon together with his list, Ram, and Shas, which won the Histadrut elections four years ago. Peretz was Ramon's No. 2, and "inherited" the position of Histadrut chief after Ramon returned to the government and to Labor.

Now Meretz will have to give up five seats in the Histadrut leadership and the positions of heads of the administration and planning divisions.

Peretz said he decided to break up the partnership with Meretz after learning it was negotiating behind his back for months with Geshet to field Geshet's Maxim Levy

for Histadrut chairman.

"While I was busy with the big workers' battles and strikes, Meretz was busy with politics, homing onto the anti-hardcore niche to promote its Knesset chances," Peretz said.

He said he had refused to accept Shas's objections to a joint list with Meretz, and worked on forming a broad coalition with Meretz and the Likud, but Meretz refused to be in the same coalition as the Likud.

"Most of the workers are on the right, yet they supported my leadership when I fought for them. Why should I throw them into the

Likud's arms when I can form a coalition with their leaders?" Peretz asked.

Meretz leaders were furious with Peretz's decision to expel them from the coalition.

"It's strange that now Peretz should talk of a breach of confidence. Why, he is only head of the Histadrut by virtue of our joint list, in which Meretz was a key factor and crucial to its victory," Knesset whip Haim Oron said.

Oron said Peretz's "secret decision" without consulting Meretz or Labor, to form a coalition with the Likud was the main reason for Meretz's decision not to join his list in the approaching elections.

## Katz praises Vanunu decision

By BAT-SHEVA TSUR

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu yesterday seemed surprised when he and his government received lavish praise for removing nuclear spy Mordechai Vanunu from solitary confinement from State Control Committee chairman Yossi Katz (Labor).

In the first part of Netanyahu's appearance yesterday before the committee's subcommittee on security affairs, which was open to the media, Katz praised the security forces for making the decision about Vanunu.

"I am pleased to see that they weighed human rights," said Katz, who had made a "humanitarian" visit to Vanunu shortly before the decision was made. "Without detracting from the extreme gravity of his act, I hope that the next step will be Vanunu's release from prison," he said.

## Meat Law passes first reading

By LIAT COLLINS

The so-called Meat Law, preserving the ban on the import of non-kosher meat, passed first reading in the Knesset last night 65-18, with five abstentions.

The amendment lifts the four-year time limit on the ban, which came into force under Yitzhak Rabin's government.

As part of the Basic Law: Freedom of Occupation, it needed 61 MKs to pass, and it was not clear until the voting took place that it had that number.

Most Labor MKs voted with their feet and were not present after their faction decided they could not support it but only vote against, abstain or not participate.

The government managed to muster enough votes after Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi answered a call by coalition members Yisrael Ba'aliya and the Third Way and separated the Meat Law from the Basic Law.

This meant that the ban on importing non-kosher meat will have no time limit, but the four-year limit will still apply to other laws which might conflict with the Basic Law: Freedom of Occupation, such as laws related to employment on Shabbat, Geshet and Moledet MKs voted with the coalition.

Tsomet was divided on the issue. Its leader, Agriculture and Environment Minister Rafael Eitan, was not present for the vote. A minister who votes against the government in a no-confidence motion or motion requiring a special majority must automatically resign from the Cabinet.

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid said Labor had again proven it is an absentee party. "Labor is supporting religious coercion, which will not only get into our noses but will stick itself into our plates," he said.

Meretz MK Amnon Rubinstein said the Knesset is gradually eroding the principles of the Basic Law. United Torah Judaism's Moshe Gafni said Labor had acted "unwisely, un-Jewishly and immorally."

Eitan said he opposed the bill and therefore absented himself. "As a representative of the silent secular majority in the government, I see the bill as a change in the status quo against the interests of the secular public," Eitan said.

Tsomet whip Eliezer Zandberg voted against the law, but Omer Mayor and Tsomet MK Pini Badash supported it.

All Yisrael Ba'aliya MKs voted in favor except for Marina Solodkin, who was present but did not participate.

After the vote, Likud spokeswoman Ronit Eckstein said Labor's decision to oppose the bill is a "significant and gross political mistake and shows hypocrisy of the strongest nature."

She said the majority of the Israeli public supported the ban on the import of non-kosher meat and "would remember this during the elections. It seems that even the Labor Party in its desperate situation understands that the Prime Minister's Office is growing further away from it and is turning into a mirage in the desert."

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## Sharansky walks thin line by siding with government

By LIAT COLLINS

During the tense voting on the first reading of the Meat Law, which in effect extends without a time limit the current ban on the import of non-kosher meat, Yisrael Ba'aliya leader Nathan Sharansky waited in the hall outside.

Only at the last moment, as the names of absentee MKs were being called for a second time, Sharansky came in and voted when it looked like the government did not have the necessary 61 votes for the bill to pass.

Yuri Stern (Yisrael Ba'aliya) later said Sharansky found the bill problematic as industry and trade minister because of the possible conflicts with international free trade agreements.

But other onlookers saw it as a sign of a problem of a different nature - the conflict between the ban on the import of non-kosher meat and the large Russian-speaking public which supports the party and is a major consumer of such meat.

After discussing the issue in a faction meeting, all Yisrael Ba'aliya MKs decided to support the bill except Marina Solodkin, who was present but did not participate, citing "reasons of conscience."

Stern explained his party's

apparent turnaround in favor of the bill by the fact that Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi had agreed to separate the Meat Law from the Basic Law.

"It's because of our insistence that now the government must explain annually to the Knesset why there is a time limit on different bills conflicting with the Basic Law: Freedom of Employment."

"This is a clear sign to both the Knesset and the High Court that such bylaws and legislation are only temporary and can be changed," Stern said.

MK Sofia Landver (Labor) said Yisrael Ba'aliya had turned its back on its public, and Meretz whip Haim Oron also said the immigrants' party sold out its public.

Stern said in response: "Sofa should look at her own party first before criticizing ours."

Stern, who said he keeps kosher, added that the bill only preserves the current status quo which bans the import of non-kosher meat but not the sale of non-kosher meat in Israel.

"It could be considered a bill encouraging the local production of non-kosher meat," he quipped.

He noted that Oron's vote against the bill in this sense hurt the interests of Oron's own kibbutz, which produces non-kosher meat products.

## Knesset hosts Israeli celebrities

AT THE KNESSET

By LIAT COLLINS

Blumenthal, Labor MK Yossi Beilin and Moledet leader Rehavam Ze'evi.

### Baking at night to become legal

Bakeries not only will be able to continue working at night, they'll be able to do so legally under a bill by Tsomet whip Eliezer Zandberg which the Knesset Labor and Social Affairs Committee approved for first reading yesterday.

Zandberg found that under legislation passed in 1951 under David Ben-Gurion and never amended it is legally forbidden for bakeries to operate at night and before 6 a.m.

The ban was made to ensure workers could rest at night.

"Night baking harms the workers' health and lifestyle and is not necessary for supplies," the origi-

nal law states.

Zandberg noted that not only is the law not enforced today, but that most bakeries operate at night. Zandberg added that the ban also violates the Basic Law: Freedom of Occupation.

### Bill would ban sleeping in public places

MK Avraham Poraz yesterday submitted a bill which would make sleeping in public places illegal.

"Lately we have seen an increase in the number of homeless people on the streets. Under the current legislation, there is no ban on sleeping in public places such as the streets, parks and beaches unless it is forbidden by a bylaw," Poraz said. "This bill is an attempt to make the local authorities aware of the problem and deal with it more seriously."

He said under the law he proposes, police would have to take homeless people off the streets and the social services would have to make an effort to rehabilitate and house them.

## Where to eat in Israel

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# Justices oppose minimum penalty for domestic violence perpetrators

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Supreme Court justices yesterday objected to the idea of a minimum penalty for perpetrators of domestic violence, at a meeting between the justices and the members of the Knesset Committee for the Status of Women.

At the same time, the justices urged the MKs to legislate the basic law of human rights, despite the clause which prevents it from overruling previous laws — including those discriminating against women in a family framework.

The meeting, the first of its kind between the Supreme Court justices and the Committee for the Status of Women, was attended by Supreme Court President Aharon Barak, Dalia Dorner, Tova

Strasberg Cohen, Dorit Beinisch, Mishael Heshin, Elyahu Matza, Yaakov Tirkel and Yosef Goldenberg.

"The Supreme Court justices told us to go for the human-rights law, despite the fact that the marriage and divorce laws remain intact. This means that perhaps in the wake of this basic law, other things can be done," MK Yossi Beilin said after the meeting.

Beilin said that until yesterday's meeting he had been against the human-rights legislation as long as clause 21, preventing the new law from overruling previous discriminatory laws, is included.

But after hearing the justices' opinion he could change his mind, he said.

However, Committee Chairman Yael Dayan and other members objected to legis-

lating the basic human-rights law according to the present proposal, which includes clause 21.

Dayan demanded legislating minimum penalty laws for crimes of domestic sexual abuse and violence, including child abuse, in view of the light penalties, such as probationary sentences, handed down by the courts to those found guilty.

Most of the justices objected to setting inflexible minimum penalties by law, which leave the judge no leeway for judicial discretion.

Barak said the justices have altered their approach towards violence against women and children.

Commenting on the meetings between MKs and justices, Barak said he felt "some-

what uncomfortable" with it in view of the principle of independence between the legislative and judiciary authorities, but afterwards told Beilin he has not yet formed his opinion and still had to think about it.

Beilin said "we meet them anyway, in social circles and events, and we talk informally and discuss legal issues. Why not do it in an orderly, official procedure, which will be open to the media? The justices have already met the Knesset's Constitutional Committee and I don't recall any reservations after that meeting."

The MKs raised the issue of women's equality and affirmative action. Dorner said there is no need for affirmative action in the legal system, where qualifications count rather than personal connections, as in other places.

## J'lem gets new police station

By ELI WOHLGELER

A new Jerusalem police station was opened yesterday between East Talpiot and Jabel Mukhabber.

"This building that we're opening today is a significant addition to the security of Jerusalem, and to the security of the inhabitants, and to the security and the peace of the entire area," said Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. "I said security and peace of the area because we believe that to be the basis for peace in every place — in Jerusalem."

The station will house 34 district policemen and over 60 border policemen, at a site that had long been a trouble spot. Beginning with the intifada, resident youths from the Arab village had thrown stones and caused considerable damage to the houses in East Talpiot.

Netanyahu said that "in Jerusalem, Jews and Arabs have lived together for many generations, sometimes peacefully, sometimes with tensions. The formula was always very straightforward: The more that law and order was reinforced, the greater was the resultant peace and security between the two communities."

East Talpiot resident Danby Meital said that the police presence won't necessarily prevent stone-throwing, "but at least they are right there so that the minute they're called, it'll take them a second to come around. So that's a big plus."

Meital said she hoped the area was "beyond the stone-throwing stage, because things have been quiet for so long."

Another resident, Judy Segal, said the new police station "probably should have been built a long time ago, but it's a very positive thing not just for us, but also for the residents of Jabel Mukhabber."

She said there are "a lot of problems in the village that are not related to us, but are internal problems, and I feel that for their own security, it will be good. And it will certainly make our neighborhood feel more secure knowing that there is a police station next door."

Meital said the problems of the village include an increase in drugs, which she said would probably be reduced with the presence of the police.

The ceremony was also attended by Insp.-Gen. Yehuda Wilk, Jerusalem chief Cmdr. Yair Yitzhaki, and Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani, who said another station would be opened soon in the north, and more police would be stationed in the Old City.



Greeting new immigrants

Knesset Immigration and Absorption Committee chairwoman Naomi Blumenthal cuddles one of the Falash Mura children who arrived at the Givat Hamatos mobile home camp in Jerusalem on Sunday, as the baby's mother looks on. The committee toured the site yesterday and met many of the new arrivals.

(Byan McBurney)

## Freak weather storms hit country

By DAVID HUDGE

There was grit in the eyes and just about everywhere else yesterday, when a sandstorm whipped by winds gusting at up to 90 kilometers an hour swept the country.

Within the space of a few hours, even the most verdant places had taken on a desert outlook. The density of the sand particles in the air was such that even the rays of the sun were shrouded and turned into a golden glow.

Some experts said the sand picked up by the strong winds may have been brought from as far away as the Sahara. Others pointed to deserts closer to home, such as Sinai and the Negev.

The sandstorms closed regional airports throughout the country, although Ben-Gurion Airport continued to operate.

Even worse hit were Egypt and Lebanon, where the storms closed the international airports in Cairo and Beirut, according to agency reports.

According to the reports, the Ferris wheel at Beirut's fairground, which withstood all the attacks and devastation during the 15-year civil war, was bowled over by the wind.

Cyprus and Turkey also felt the

effects of the storm.

Zvi Alperon, director of the Israel Meteorological Service, said the sandstorm was caused by a hot low pressure system that developed over North Africa. Strong southerly winds swept the depression northward via Egypt and Israel causing the sandstorm, which is a rare phenomenon, but is more likely to occur during the transitional period between winter and summer.

Alperon said that such events occurred on an average of once every five years, although this particular weather system was rarer

than most because of the strength of the winds and density of the sand particles.

It was also marked by the lowest atmospheric pressure recorded here in the past 35 years.

Alperon noted that the storm did not appear to be connected to El Nino.

"We forecast at the beginning of the winter that this phenomenon was unlikely to affect the Middle East, although we did not rule out the possibility of some aberrations," he said.

By mid-afternoon the sandstorms had been replaced by dri-

ving rain, as the depression shifted from the south to a more westerly direction, picking up a cold front en route.

The cold weather is expected to reach a peak tomorrow, with snow forecast for Mt. Hermon, parts of the Golan and Galilee peaks, including possibly Safed.

The rain elsewhere in the country is expected to be accompanied by thunderstorms in places, as well as continuing strong southwesterly winds. The stormy weather is forecast to die out by Thursday, although it will remain colder than usual for the time of year.

## Fishermen rescued after 7-hour ordeal

Three fishermen were rescued after a seven-hour ordeal at sea when they lost control of their small boat off Haifa because of the stormy weather.

Police spokesman Supt. Moshe Nissan said the fishermen had left Haifa port in their boat around 6 a.m. The alarm was raised by friends and relatives when they did not return after several hours.

"The sea was very stormy, with strong winds and big waves, especially for such a small boat in which they were sailing," said Nissan.

Coastal police and the Israel Navy were put on the alert and searches mounted for the missing crew.

"In the afternoon, around 1 p.m., a navy ship spotted a red flare at sea and a coastal police boat went to the area," said Nissan. "They found that the fishermen had tied their boat to a buoy, about three nautical miles from the coast, that marks the entrance for shipping to Haifa port."

"The fishermen were exhausted and almost on their last legs when they were found," he said.

The coastal police towed the fishing boat back to Kishon harbor in the Haifa bay. The boat had apparently suffered engine failure and had not been able to negotiate the huge waves. D.R.

## NEWS

in brief

### Gasoline down slightly

The price of gasoline and many other fuels dropped last night at midnight. Both 95 and 96 octane gasoline went down just over two percent, and are now NIS 3.22 a liter. Other drops include jet fuel, down 10.74%, heating oil, down 7.66%, and diesel fuel for transport down 8.21%.

Jerusalem Post Staff

### Body found near Lod bus station

The body of an unidentified man in his late 20s was found yesterday afternoon in an abandoned building near the central bus station in Lod. A syringe was found next to the body. Police said that there were no signs of violence on the body and that it appeared that the man had overdosed. The body was taken to the National Forensics Institute in Abu Kabir.

Iim

### Third Way demands to appoint ambassador

Third Way chairman and Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani yesterday asked Prime Minister Netanyahu to fulfill his coalition agreement with the party and allow it to appoint a new ambassador to the European Union. The current ambassador, Ephraim Halevy, is stepping down in the next few weeks to head the Mossad.

Iim

### Ministries argue about foreign workers

Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai yesterday accused Deputy Housing Minister Meir Porush of "spreading disinformation regarding the distribution of permits for foreign workers."

Yishai, who heads the ministerial committee on foreign workers, said that at a meeting on Sunday, the committee denied contractors' request to increase the number of permits for foreign workers in the construction industry. He said that 35,000 permits will be issued, and not 50,000 as Porush had announced.

In response, the Housing Ministry said that there was a misunderstanding regarding what had been agreed upon at the meeting and emphasized that unless the construction industry is allowed at least 50,000 foreign workers, prices for new apartments would rise sharply and the industry would collapse.

Iim

### Dudu Topaz loses libel suit

Dudu Topaz yesterday lost his libel suit over a gossip column written about him that appeared in *Ha'ir* in August 1995. Topaz had sued the Shoken newspaper chain, reporter Shahaf Segal and *Ha'ir* editor Yossi Klein for NIS 250,000.

Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court Judge Hanna Yanun ruled that while the column had been written with the intention of hurting and insulting Topaz, it was not libelous.

Iim

### Wife murderer suspect says he's sitting shiva

Shimon Amzaleg, who is suspected of murdering his wife Revital, told Haifa Magistrate's Court that he is sitting shiva for her in his jail cell. Amzaleg, who allegedly stabbed her to death with a pocketknife, said he had stabbed her accidentally when her mother had pushed him and he fell. "This happened as a result of the fall, and I don't pose a danger to anyone," the 25-year-old Haifa man said. The court extended his remand for six days.

Iim

### Study: Most learning disabled children are boys

Boys are more likely to suffer from a learning disability than girls, and two-thirds of the children dealt with by Nitzan, the organization for the learning disabled, are boys, director-general Dorit Raslansky said yesterday. She was speaking in the presence of the president's wife Reuma Weizman, as Nitzan, along with five organizations for the hearing impaired, prepared for its annual fund-raising campaign. Ludmilla Tichon, wife of the Knesset Speaker and president of Nitzan, also was present.

Iim

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Wednesday, March 18, 1998, at 10:00 am. Room 2324, Cukier, Goldstein-Goren Humanities Building

### "Motor Development: The New Synthesis: Learning to Walk"

Monday, March 23, 1998, at 2:00 pm. Room 307, Pesla Toman Gutman Building

### "Motor Development: The New Synthesis: Learning to Reach"

Monday, March 23, 1998, at 4:00 pm. Room 314, Kreitman Zlotowski Classroom Building

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## Suissa pays first ministerial visit to Golan Druse since '91

By Jerusalem Post Staff

Everything must be done to try to get permission for members of Druse families divided between the Golan Heights and Syria to

visit each other, Interior Minister Eli Suissa said yesterday, during a visit to Druse towns on the Golan Heights.

During this visit — the first by a minister to Druse on the Golan

since 1991 — Suissa also said the Interior Ministry branch on the Golan, which had been closed several months ago due to a manpower shortage, would be reopened.

Suissa said he made the visit to

learn about the problems of the communities there first hand.

All the local authority officials and other Druse dignitaries who met with Suissa said they hoped the visit would help strengthen

relations between Druse and Jews on the Golan.

Suissa helped to arrange a *sulha* between two feuding local council heads who were not speaking to each other.

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• **Prevalence** is the proportion of the population with a disease at a particular point in time.



# Armenia votes for a new president

YEREVAN (Reuters) — Armenians voted for a new president yesterday in a closely watched election they hope will restore their ex-Soviet republic's democratic image.

Yet even before voting had ended, that image was under fire again as the two frontrunners traded accusations about how the election was being run in their poor but strategically important country bordering Georgia, Azerbaijan, Turkey and Iran.

"A falsification machine is operating in the country," said Karen Demirchyan, Armenia's Soviet-era communist leader who led most pre-election opinion polls after making a startling comeback following a decade of political obscurity.

"If we do not have a legitimate president this time, then the current regime we are all sick to death of will continue in power," he said in a late-night televised address, referring to Prime Minister Robert Kocharyan, the acting president.

Kocharyan, Demirchyan's main rival, dismissed the charges.

"Some of the candidates' nerves are breaking down and they are slinging mud. I'm not going to do that," he told reporters after casting his vote in the election, which is being scrutinized across the region because of oil riches in the nearby Caspian Sea basin as well as concerns for democracy.

"I'm not idealizing the situation," Kocharyan said. "Armenia does not have a decades-long tradition of holding elections and there might be some violations, although I don't think that it is possible to win or lose using fraud."

Spokesmen for both Demirchyan and Kocharyan said they had received complaints about unspecified minor irregularities.

Armenia's 1995 parliamentary election and a 1996 presidential vote were tainted by fraud which has given the mountainous republic of nearly four million people a soiled reputation abroad.

Voters braved light drizzle and chilly temperatures yesterday, lining up outside polling stations in the capital Yerevan not long after they opened at 8 a.m. (0400 GMT). The vote seemed to be proceeding smoothly in Yerevan and officials described the turnout as high. The Central Election Commission said 45 percent of the eligible 2.2 million voters had cast ballots by 5 p.m. (1300 GMT).

First results are not expected until today.

Two hundred foreign observers are monitoring voting, which was taking place at 1,597 polling stations. More than 12,000 people from the Armenian diaspora are eligible to vote.

The observers, including teams from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe, say they will be paying particular attention to the count, which starts after polls close at 10 p.m. (1800 GMT).

It was there they say fraud occurred in the 1996 vote, which reelected Levon Ter-Petrosyan president. Ter-Petrosyan later used tanks and troops to quell street protests sparked by critics who said he had rigged the election. He denied this.

Ter-Petrosyan was forced to resign last month by opponents, including Kocharyan, who were furious at concessions he offered to Azerbaijan to end the bitter decade-long struggle between the two neighbors over the disputed region of Nagorno-Karabakh.

A runoff will be held in two weeks if, as expected, none of the 12 candidates gets more than 50% of the vote.

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Presidential candidate Karen Demirchyan casts his ballot, with his granddaughter's help, yesterday in Yerevan.

## WORLD

in brief

### 5 Iraqi children killed by Gulf War bomb

BAGHDAD (AP) — Five children were killed yesterday when a bomb from the Gulf War exploded in southern Iraq, the official Iraqi News Agency reported. The bomb went off in the residential district of al-Husseini in Basra, the capital of the province with the same name. Two of the victims were 11-year-olds, two were 14-year-olds and one was aged 13, INA said. It said the bomb was a remnant of the "vicious Zionist and American aggression on Iraq." On January 25, a similar explosion killed 21 women and children in Basra.

### US vaccinates troops in Kuwait against anthrax

CAMP DOHA, Kuwait (AP) — Inoculations for the 8,000 US soldiers in Kuwait began on Sunday after the Pentagon announced earlier this month that all 36,000 US service members in the Gulf will be vaccinated against anthrax.

To be fully immunized, each service member needs six inoculations over 18 months, followed by a booster shot every year.

### UN convention on dangerous chemicals ends

BRUSSELS (AP) — Ninety-five nations have agreed on a convention to monitor and curb the use of dangerous chemicals and pesticides, setting binding legal restrictions on the \$30-billion-a-year industry, the UN announced yesterday. "It will make the trade safer for mainly developing nations that import these materials," said Maria de Azevedo Rodrigues, chairwoman of the international convention. UN officials said the convention would impose important controls without completely banning the 27 products. They stressed the chemicals can be useful in limited doses, such as DDT, which is used to control malaria.

### Dubai upholds death sentence for Canadian

DUBAI (Reuters) — A Dubai appeals court has upheld the death sentence against a 22-year-old Canadian for possession and dealing in drugs after police seized 5.54 grams of heroin from his home. The daily *Gulf News* said yesterday the court in the United Arab Emirates upheld a lower court's judgement sentencing the man, identified only as RDM, to death. The defendant, who was arrested in January 1996, can still appeal to the Court of Cassation. "At the request of the family we are not giving out further details," Canadian vice-consul Stephen Randall said.

## UN human rights session exposes atrocities

GENEVA (AP) — The United Nations began a session to expose atrocities committed by government and other forces yesterday, as the world marks the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Some countries will be singled out for perpetrating abuses or atrocities, but independent champions of human rights maintain that powerful and influential nations like China and Algeria can get off scot-free.

Czech President Václav Havel, the lead-off guest, said the idea of human rights can play a powerful role in the "struggle against tyranny. The 'nonviolent struggle for observance of human rights' eventually brought about 'the collapse of the totalitarian system in our country,'" he said.

More than 30 ministers or national leaders are scheduled to speak to the 53-nation Human Rights Commission during its six-week annual session.

"Our forefathers built the United Nations to save succeeding generations from holocaust and war, horrors which have brought untold sorrow to humankind," UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan said in the opening address.

But the declaration will work only if it is backed by constant vigilance, with people speak-

ing out when they see inhumanity, Amman said.

As he spoke in the European headquarters of the United Nations, about 400 ethnic Albanian women and children stood outside the specially fortified front gate in silent protest. Waving white sheets of paper, the protesters demanded an end to Serb "persecution and massacres of the Albanian population" in the southern Yugoslav province of Kosovo.

The 1948 declaration, drafted while the memory of World War II was fresh, notes that "disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind." It proclaims "a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want" and covers rights such as freedom to work, own property and marry the person of one's choosing.

"But governments look set to ignore some acute human-rights situations," said Amnesty International legal director Nicholas Bowen. "For the victims the anniversary will be little cause for celebration."

Both the 15-nation European Union and the US, which have led repeated attempts to pass a resolution criticizing China, have declared that

they see progress in Beijing and are committed to a new, quieter method of behind-the-scenes diplomacy. Critics say the enticement of China's huge market also played a role in the decisions in Brussels and Washington to not even support a China resolution this year. The commission can do little more than condemn abuses, but that has been enough to spur China and other potential targets to mount extensive lobbying campaigns with developing countries, which dominate the commission, to avoid international opprobrium.

Amnesty said another key nation likely to avoid the scrutiny of the commission this year is Algeria, where, it said, "thousands have been backed to death, tortured or 'disappeared.'"

Other countries listed by human-rights groups as deserving closer or more public scrutiny are Cambodia, Colombia, Kenya, Saudi Arabia and Turkey.

The countries and territories currently assigned special investigators include Afghanistan, Burundi, Cuba, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Iraq, Iran, Myanmar, formerly known as Burma, the West Bank and Gaza, Rwanda, Sudan, and the former Yugoslavia.

By JOHN MULLINS

BOSTON (AP) — Dr. Benjamin Spock, the pediatrician whose common-sense theories of child care helped guide parents around the world during the last half-century,

Farewell, Dr. Spock, Page 12

died Sunday in San Diego at 94. Spock's *Baby and Child Care*, first published in 1946, was the bible of parents in the baby boom that followed World War II.

"I wanted to be supportive of parents rather than to scold them," he said. "The book set out very deliberately to counteract some of the rigidities of pediatric tradition. It emphasized the importance of great differences between individual babies, of the need for flexibility and of the lack of necessity to worry constantly about 'spoiling.'"

In subsequent years, as the paperback sold 50 million copies and was translated into more than 30 languages, Spock came under fire from critics who branded him the "father of permissiveness," responsible for a "Spock-marked" generation of hippies.

Through it all, Spock said he never changed his basic philosophy on child care — "to respect children because they're human beings and they deserve respect, and they'll grow up to be better people."

Benjamin McLane Spock was born May 2, 1903, in New Haven, Connecticut, oldest of six children of a lawyer whose Dutch ancestors once spelled their name Spaak. He attended Yale University, where he joined the crew team and helped win a gold medal at the 1924 Olympics.

He decided on medicine after spending a summer as a counselor at a camp for handicapped children. Following graduation from Yale, he took his medical degree at Columbia University and studied at the New York Psychoanalytic Institute.

From 1933 to 1943, he worked in private practice in New York City while teaching pediatrics at Cornell University.

Spock spent two years as a psychiatrist in the US Naval Reserve Medical Corps and was discharged in 1946 as a lieutenant commander. In 1951, after four years teaching psychiatry at the University of Minnesota, Spock joined the

University of Pittsburgh as professor of child development. In 1955, he joined the faculty of Case Western Reserve University.

He wrote a magazine column for nearly 30 years, first for *Ladies Home Journal* and later for *Redbook*.

Spock first moved into the political limelight in 1967, warning of the possible hazards posed to children and nursing mothers by atmospheric nuclear testing. He was elected

co-chairman of the National Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy. He ran for president in 1972 as a candidate of the Peoples Party, getting more than 75,000 votes.

In the 1970s, he wrote *Raising Children in a Difficult Time*, which discussed such issues as drugs, contraception, and day care. A later revision of *Baby and Child Care*, included material on single parents, stepparents, and divorce, something he learned of firsthand following his own divorce and remarriage.

Spock's first marriage, in 1927 to the former Jane Cheney, ended in divorce after 48 years. They had two sons. His second wife was Mary Morgan.



Dr. Benjamin Spock (AP)

## Most Moroccans would like to emigrate - survey

RABAT (Reuters) — Almost 90 percent of Moroccans in their 20s would like to settle abroad, according to an opinion poll published yesterday.

The poll, which was printed in the weekly economic newspaper *le Journal*, said that 89% of those aged from 20 to 29 years wanted to leave, and 71% among the 30 to 39 age group.

The newspaper said that the poll disproved the theory that women

were more attached to their environment than men. While migrants in the past came mainly from rural areas, more young city dwellers now wanted to emigrate, some 73% against 69% in villages.

The paper said it was very alarming to see that 70% of graduates were ready to leave, "but there are realities that only the blind would not see, a high unemployment rate, blatant social marginalization and growing disparities."

"Each day hundreds of young Moroccans undertake the risky journey to Europe via the Strait of Gibraltar. Poverty, unemployment and repression push them northwards," the paper said.

Publication of the survey coincided with news of the latest accident to a boat carrying illegal immigrants between North Africa and Spain. At least 13 would-be immigrants vanished after the boat sank off the Spanish coast.

## Suharto swears in new cabinet

By CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — President Suharto's new cabinet took office yesterday as police and student protesters fought briefly on a university campus in the capital.

The 36 ministers, who include Suharto's eldest daughter as well as his old friends and business partners, must now tackle Indonesia's gravest economic crisis since the 1960s.

Heading the agenda are the government's troubled ties with the International Monetary Fund, which suspended aid amid fears that Indonesia is not serious about economic reform. Hubert Neiss, the IMF's chief of Asian affairs, is expected to visit Jakarta today.

At the presidential palace, a Muslim cleric held the Koran over the heads of the ministers as the 76-year-old Suharto swore them in. The only Christian, Labor Minister Theo Sambuaga, placed his hand on a Bible.

Sixteen kilometers to the south, police clubbed students at the private Universitas Nasional during a rally against the government and its inability to stem inflation and unemployment.

There were no reports of arrests. Last week, armed forces chief

Gen. Wiranto, newly appointed as defense minister, warned that authorities would crack down on protesters who break the law.

Several hundred students staged peaceful anti-government rallies yesterday at two campuses in Surabaya, 640 km. east of Jakarta.

Last week, students at more than a dozen campuses in several cities held noisy protests against the reelection of Suharto, who was awarded a seventh five-year term by a loyalist assembly.

Under foreign pressure to reform the economy, Suharto hastily assembled a cabinet packed with allies that critics say is unlikely to push hard on reform.

The IMF halted aid to the financially battered nation because of fears that Suharto is backsliding on austerity measures he promised to implement. So far, the IMF has handed over 6 percent of a \$43 billion rescue package.



Little time to celebrate

Wearing garlands of victory, India's prime minister-designate Atal Behari Vajpayee, leader of the Bharatiya Janata Party, waves to well-wishers in New Delhi yesterday. Vajpayee met with leaders of allied parties yesterday and scheduled more meetings for today, in an attempt to hammer out a governing program acceptable to everyone in his diverse coalition. He is to be sworn in as prime minister on Thursday and must then win a confidence vote in parliament within 10 days.

## Jockeying begins in choice of presidents for France's regions

By DEBORAH SEWARD

PARIS (AP) — France's political parties began jockeying yesterday for the leadership of the country's regions after the Socialists defeated conservative parties in local elections.

Official results released yesterday by the Interior Ministry showed the Socialists and their leftist allies won 39.6 percent of the vote in Sunday's election.

Mainstream conservative parties got 35.65%, while the National Front won 15.19% — up from their 14.1% in the 1992 regional elections.

The comfortable — though not spectacular — showing by the Left consolidated Socialist Prime Minister Lionel Jospin's power nine months after the Left came to power after winning parliamentary elections.

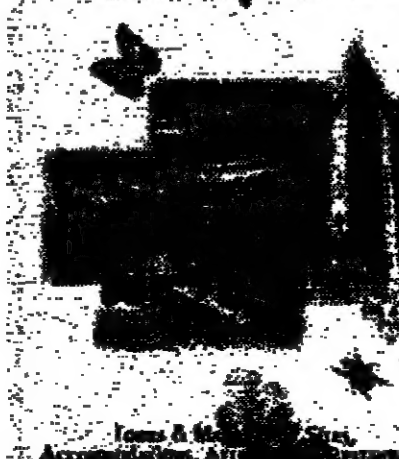
With the vote counted, the new

regional councils will now choose their presidents Friday. The Left stands to win the leadership of 12 of France's 22 regions, way up from the two they control now.

The National Front made its overtures to the traditional right yesterday, with deputy party leader Bruno Megret proposing alliances in regions where their combined forces could win the regional presidencies.

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# Thirty years after the My Lai massacre

Americans and Vietnamese pay respect to the 407 innocent villagers who lost their lives at the hands of US servicemen

By PAUL ALEXANDER

MY LAI, Vietnam — Hopes for a bright future mingled with memories of the dark past as Vietnamese and Americans stood shoulder to shoulder yesterday to mark the 30th anniversary of the My Lai massacre.

The featured speakers were two US servicemen who kept the tragedy from being even worse by landing their helicopter between marauding American troops and a small group of villagers.

"Something terrible happened here 30 years ago," Hugh Thompson, of Lafayette, Louisiana, said as the crowd of more than 1,000 surged forward to catch a glimpse of the pilot who has been hailed as a hero.

"I cannot explain why it happened. I just wish our crew that day could have helped more people than we did," Thompson said.

Many in the crowd, particularly Vietnamese soldiers, applauded after the brief remarks ended the half-hour ceremony, then lined up to light sticks of incense at a concrete monument showing My Lai's victims — some dying and others comforting the dying.

Several dozen Americans were on hand, both veterans and civilians.

"We are here to pay respects to the dead and the living," said Richard Lee Francisco, a construction manager from Seattle who lives with his Vietnamese wife in Danang, a two-hour drive away.

Just a few days ago, Thompson, gunner Lawrence Colburn and crew chief Glenn Andreotta — who was killed three weeks after My Lai — were belatedly honored with the Soldier's Medal, the highest US military award for bravery not involving conflict with the enemy.

On Sunday, Thompson and Colburn had an emotional reunion with two of the women they helped save. Later, as they toured the memorial, a woman who survived the massacre came up to shake hands and talk, just a few feet from the ditch where she had lain under a pile of bodies for hours.

But a hoped-for reunion did not occur with a young boy who was injured and covered with blood when Thompson plucked him from a pile of bodies. The boy is 36 now and serving a five-year jail term for theft. Village officials say he is a walking casualty of My Lai.

Colburn, of Woodstock, Georgia, was making his first return to My Lai for the anniversary. In his address Monday, he



Vietnamese line up to light sticks of incense at a monument depicting My Lai's victims. (AP)

lamented the loss of Andreotta and offered sympathy "to every family of every veteran who has paid the

same sacrifice. May we never forget again the heartbreak and brutality of war," Colburn said. "I

believe in my heart and I pray to God we can achieve peace on earth."

But Hoan Ngoc Tran, vice chairman of the People's Committee in Quang Ngai province, pointed out that even as the memory of the Vietnam War and My Lai's tragedy fade, the road to world peace remains rocky.

"The ghost of war is still haunting mankind," he said. "The bloody ethnic and religious cleansing still happens in many parts of the world."

The 2.4-hectare (six-acre) memorial site is a haunting place. A peaceful, flower-strewn park surrounded by rice paddies, it features headstones marking graves and sites of mass killings, along with a museum with graphic photos of the massacre.

Before an honor guard carried red-and-green wreaths to the main status, loudspeakers blared a commentary Monday: "In just two hours, American invaders killed 407 people in this hamlet alone. The American invaders left the village with blood and fire and mass graves." The soldiers moved on to a nearby hamlet and killed another 97 there the same day.

My Lai has changed over the years. Motorbikes vie for space on the paved road that once was dirt and used only by bicycles and pedestrians. The population has swelled from 8,000 in 1968 to

more than 12,000 today, even though the area was further devastated by the war in the years after the massacre.

But just a stone's throw away from the memorial, life goes on as it has for generations — in war and peace. Farmers cultivate rice paddies or use water buffalo to plow their small plots.

Mike Boehm, a Vietnam War veteran who visited the massacre site for the first time several years ago and was strongly moved by the experience, is trying to bring something positive to the region.

The Madison, Wisconsin, resident has helped set up a loan program for some local women to start their own businesses. On Monday, he used a bamboo-handled shovel to break ground for a peace park a little over a mile from the memorial.

Nguyen Duc Le, vice chairman of the Son Tinh district, described it as a place where people can come after visiting the memorial: for children to play and adults to meditate on the massacre.

"With this park of peace, we have created a green, growing, living monument to peace," Boehm said. "Let both of us, the people of the United States and the people of Vietnam, move to a new future of peace." (AP)

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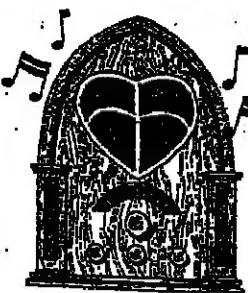
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# Violence set to music

In Tune



By David Brinn

The sound track of the film *Mortal Kombat - Annihilation* sounds just like you would expect it to: violence set to music.

Whereas a few years ago a movie like this would be 100% heavy metal, which at least has its basis in blues and rock & roll, this year's model for young aggressive music fans is electronic at top volume.

**MORTAL KOMBAT - ANNIHILATION**  
Sound Track  
(Relicon)

**THE GIRL FROM IPANEMA**  
Various Artists  
(Relicon)

which has its basis in untalented technocrats who have been exposed to too many strobe lights.

It's basically the same music we headbangers used to listen to as kids. It's just distorted by loops and synthesizers beyond any noticeable recognition. We certainly never learned about anything closely resembling this in Miss Glassford's sixth grade music appreciation class.

There's no use singling out any tracks or artists because neither you nor I have ever heard of them and, with any luck, we can continue through life in blissful ignorance except when a car passes us on the street with bass and drums music blaring so loudly, the vehicle looks



The sound track to the movie 'Mortal Kombat - Annihilation' is old fashioned heavy metal distorted by loops and synthesizers.

like it's going to implode.

Those naysayers who have been crowing about the death of rock & roll for the last 20 or 30 years, have a little more evidence at hand here.

THE CARNIVAL in Rio has just ended, but that's no reason to put away the maracas and the bongos. *The Girl from Ipanema: The Best of Brazilian Classics* lives up to its name, which is a tall order.

Covering 40 years of popular Brazilian beats (better known in Rio as "musica popular brasileira,"

or MPB), *The Girl* reflects how pervasive the Brazilian influence has been on the Israeli psyche and how it spread onward to the West.

The title cut, of course, is everyone's favorite cocktail bar shmaltz. Performed here by Stan Getz, who covered the song written by the fathers of modern Brazilian pop, Antonio Carlos Jobim and Vinícius de Moraes, "The Girl from Ipanema" introduced the bossa nova sound to the US. The song undoubtedly contributed to the sexual revolution in 1960s middle

America with its sultry yet unthreatening beat which induced suburbanites to swap mates and buy flamingos for their lawn.

Fans of Paul Simon's *Rhythm of the Sains* will quickly recognize its roots in Egberto's "Una historia de Iña," a prime example of the native Bahia drum beat.

Those tunes that have influenced Israel are also amply represented. Jobim and Elis Regina's duet "Água de Março" was later covered by Gidi Gov and Miki Karni as "Keshe hageshem yavo." Jorge

Ben's "Pais tropical," performed here by Fio Maravilha, was revamped by Yehudit Ravitz as "Eretz tropit vafa," and she changed another of Ben's tunes, "Que maravilha," to "Pnei malach."

Capping the disc is a song that Israel Radio listeners will remember from a couple of decades ago as chopped up filler music before the news. To hear one of Brazil's premier divas perform "Trem daz orze" in its entirety is a pageantry of sound and emotion reflective of the rich Brazilian experience.

## A spiritual, cerebral Daniel Barenboim

### CONCERT ROUNDUP

Daniel Barenboim's rendition of Liszt's Sonata in B minor, with all its brilliance, virtuosity, bravura and occasional lyricism, in the JSO Recital Series, almost made one forget the preceding Beethoven sonatas.

In Beethoven's Sonata op. 109,

**DANIEL BARENBOIM**  
JSO Recital Series  
Sonatas by Beethoven and Liszt  
Jerusalem Theater  
March 8

Barenboim appeared closer to this work's rarefied spirituality than to the stormier mood of the *Pathétique*. His approach sounded predominantly cerebral and minutely calculated. Spontaneity and forceful expression did not appear to be among his major concerns. A meditative ambience and exquisite soft tones, more than any excitement, were this performance's special fascination.

Traces of the current obsession with pianistic velocity were noticeable in the *Pathétique*. After a captivating pensive opening, speed was achieved at the expense of the

melodic theme's weightiness, the fingers hovering lightly over the keys instead of striking into them. The slow movement sounded more like an Andante than the prescribed Adagio, to say nothing of the cantabile. There was room for less haste and more clarity in the final Allegro.

THE MOST exciting and powerful work at the festival was Oded Zohary's *Three Winter Ballads*, in which the composer uses a Hebrew translation of three songs by Anna Akhmatova and creates an intricate tapestry of so-called folk music turned into something much more eloquent. Each song is a world in its own right and together they make a powerful opus which was marvelously performed above all by Edna Pruchnik, whose alto is

**TEMPUS FUGIT CONTEMPORARY MUSIC FESTIVAL**  
Tel Aviv Museum, March 5-8

caressing and captivating. Pruchnik was also the soloist in Benjamin Barak's *Simmen*, a powerful opus in which the composer creates an intense world. The combination of string quartet, percussion, clarinet and horn with the human voice was compelling. New chamber works for voice by



Daniel Barenboim

Ron Weidberg and Ya'acov Gilboa left a lot to be desired. Marina Levit, on the other hand, gave a dramatic rendition of Tsippie Fleischer's *Lamentation*.

The premiere of Gil Shohat's half hour children's opera *The Happy Prince* was a delightful event. Shohat has created a romantic mini-epic which moves quickly from one emotional extreme to another. The musical language is simple but not simplistic, and one can easily sense that this is a composer who knows what he wants in every medium he writes in. The Moran Children's Choir under the

baton of Naomi Faran was first rate. Director Julia Pevzner created a dramatic, easy-flowing mini-show.

**WHEN GIUSEPPE SINOPOLI and the IPO reached the finale of Mahler's Third Symphony, it was as if a new fire had been lit and suddenly, after a powerful reading of the symphony, everything had to start anew, as if the world, which was constructed and deconstructed, was reborn from its own ashes and began to grow and prosper with its eyes steadfast towards the horizon. It was an optimistic ending which reaches directly into the soul and brought to a conclu-**

**SINOPOLI CONDUCTS MAHLER IPO**  
Mann Auditorium, March 4

sion in a performance in which the IPO played one of its best concerts of the season. Some might argue that this Mahler lacked the pain, agony and ecstasy one usually associates with the composer. Could be. After all, Sinopoli is a thinking man's conductor who tries to delve into the essence of the work. His interpretations are often unconventional and much more interesting for that. This was a Mahler third which I, for one, will never forget. Michael Ajzenstadt

THE WE Hear the World Festival of music brought huge crowds to the TAPAC, who danced in the aisles as ensembles from the four corners of the world electrified them from the stage. There was the dynamic Mann Dibango side by

**WE HEAR THE WORLD FESTIVAL**  
Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center  
March 4-7

side with the enthusiasm, panache and excitement of Zap Mama, in addition to the serene stylings of the musicians from Rajasthan. But as far as I am concerned, the most beguiling performance was that of the Whirling Dervishes from Turkey. It is not an easy show to watch from beginning to end, and some might even argue that it is very repetitive, which hinders the overall enjoyment. But once the listener/viewer is willing to be taken on a transcendental voyage into a terra incognita, the result is extremely rewarding. These dervishes play and dance as in a trance, their songs and dance performance simply hypnotic.

Festival concerts were filmed for future airing on local television. Next year's We Hear the World Festival takes place June 2-5, 1999. Michael Ajzenstadt

## Gorky's futile fracas

### THEATER REVIEW

To all appearances, this production is primarily a showcase for the talents of Beit Zvi's most recent crop of graduate actors. Over a dozen are embroiled in demanding roles in this stormy scene set in a Russian

**BOURGEOIS**  
By Maxim Gorky  
Translated by Eran Benel  
Directed & designed by Salva Melitz  
Hastriya Theater

household of the post-Czarist period. At least three of these prospective artists emerge with the promise of a bright future.

You can teach people to be technicians; but actors, no matter how you train them, will never achieve greatness unless they are born with it.

Amir Karieff shows all the signs of a natural-born actor. His Tatarov, the drunken church chorister, is a mature, sophisticated and subtle creation, precocious in a still raw and inexperienced actor. It is hoped that his performance here will earn him roles of equally dramatic stature in future productions.

Anat Zamshteyman as Tatiana, a souring old maid and life-weary schoolteacher, played with sensitivity, restrained pathos and emotional depth, shows great potential as an up-and-coming performer as well.

Gil Wasserman, who plays Partichichin, the never-sober bird-seller, gives the third outstanding performance. His character study of the comic grotesque is delightfully evocative, sincere and never overworked.

In fact, it is only in these three presentations that anything of the authentic Gorky ambience or mood is captured. Gorky wraps all his plays in a dark and dreary blanket of misery and hopeless despair, enlivened - if at all - by black humor.

In this production, however, this characteristic quality is downplayed. Apparent only in the depressing set, flea-market furnishings and gloomy lighting, it is replaced by a bristling display of brawling bourgeois, shrilly antagonistic protagonists, and shallow relationships.

This is countered by the director's attempt to distract attention from the futile, ongoing fracas with a perpetual onslaught of superfluous stage business. Repetitive exits and entrances, flinging of cushions, lighting of cigarettes, and banging of doors prove a poor substitute for a real Gorky ethos.

## Cast in the shadow of the star

By ANN HORNADAY

J.T. Who? That's the usual response at the mention of J.T. Walsh.

Walsh, who appeared in more than 60 films, died February 27 of a heart attack at the age of 54. Most recently he played the scheming husband in John Dahl's *Red Rock West*, the scary pedophile in *Sling Blade*, and the tracker terrorizing Kurt Russell in *Breakdown*. His career capitalized on his ability to convey innocence and malignancy simultaneously. He almost never stopped working in 33 years, yet most filmmakers have a difficult time conjuring up his face. J.T. Walsh was a supporting actor, the guy who thoughtlessly keeps the plot moving, keeps the spirit of the production on point, gives hazily written characters the stamp of individuality without stealing thunder from the lead players. All the while suffering the ignominious yet unavoidable moniker of "second banana."

Walsh epitomized a classic type on which supporting careers are built: the villain. With his uncanny blend of innocence and malice, anonymity and menace, he embodied the banality of evil, just as Christopher Walken personifies its more psychotic aspects, and James Woods its haunted, wounded side.

Walsh's passing invites reflection: Whether the career of a supporting actor? He hasn't disappeared, but he seems in increasing danger of extinction, reduced to a wispy walk-on or a stereotype, by the stars and special effects that are driving movies.

Consider the nominees for this year's Academy Award for best supporting actor: two comebacks of waning careers, two stars gracing worthy productions with their presence, and a fresh young actor. What's missing from the list is the career utility man.

The Golden Age of the supporting actor was the late 1930s and 1940s, when the studio system was in full force. MGM's motto was, "More stars than there are in heaven." It could easily, if less poetically, have said the same for co-stars.

The Golden Age extended into the 1950s, when trained actors could work in solid supporting roles. Some went on to stardom (James Stewart, Gary Cooper and Clark Gable; later, Harrison Ford carried on that tradition). Others, who lacked "star quality" but had a facility for playing a multitude of characters or just one type, made up the studios' stable of reliable supporting players. Their repeated use helped create the cinematic grammar of the day. Not that the grammar was always edifying. Alvin Tarnoff equaled

"swarthy foreigner." Peter Lorre's sneering visage became a trope for every conniving German during the war years. Walter Brennan equaled "old codger."

But there were also the great character actors who transcended type. Think of *Casablanca* without Lorre or Claude Rains or Sydney Greenstreet. Imagine what the great films of the 1950s would have been without Karl Malden, Arthur Kennedy, Anthony Quinn and Jack Palance.

There are heirs to the greats of the Golden Age on the horizon. Greg Kinnear, nominated for an Oscar for his portrayal of a gay artist in *As Good As It Gets*, could be the next Gig Young, but is there enough honor in that for a young man with a "hot" future? Kevin Spacey, who won the 1995 Oscar for *The Usual Suspects*, has the silkiness of a modern-day Claude Rains. Samuel L. Jackson is able to handle both lead and support.

Time will tell whether Hollywood can consistently create roles worthy of their talents. In the meantime, next time you're at the movies, take a little time to look at the guy keeping the whole cavalcade going. And try to remember his name, so that at least one less career will be relegated to "Who?"

(The Baltimore Sun)

## NEWS

of the muse

By HELEN KAYE

### Dennis Potter at the Khan

Director Ben Levine believes that violence on the stage is cathartic for this violent age. His well-received production of *Killer Joe* at the Khan Theater seems to be proof.

Now Levine takes on the high priest of strange, the late Dennis Potter. His production of Potter's *Blue Remembered Hills* opens at the Khan on Saturday. The play deals with the games children play, except that these children are played by adults. Children are often heedless of the consequences of their actions, but so are adults, which is why Potter insisted on adult casting to drive the moral home. Originally broadcast in 1979 on the BBC as a teleplay, *Blue Remembered Hills* is about a group of children playing war games during the height of the Blitz in World War II. The Khan production is set in no particular time to emphasize the idea that the games people play haven't changed. Potter, who died in 1994, is probably best remembered for his TV series *The Singing Detective*.

### France's Comédie Française to visit

Established in 1680 by and for the delectation of Louis XIV, France's Comédie Française is the temple of classic French theater. Four of the 32-member company are coming from March 21 to 23 to present scenes from some of Molière's greatest comedies, including *The Imaginary Invalid* and *Tartuffe*. They will also present poems and scenes by actor/director Louis Jouvet. Brush up your French, because the presentation sponsored by the French Institute, is in French with no translation.

### One-act plays at Tzavta Tel Aviv

Last year's Short Play Festival was such a success that its organizers decided to do it again. This year they chose 10 from the more than 100 submissions, some by beginners, others by established playwrights. In fact, organizers hope the genre will encourage more of those who aren't playwrights, like poets or novelists, to try their hand.

The plays include *Him* ("Hu") by novelist Sami Michael, about a student, blind cleaning lady and conscience; *General Schwarzkopf Hunts Pink Tigers in the Desert* by the late Yosef Mundi, and written during the Gulf War, *Hearing the Sunrise* ("Lishmoa et Hazriha") about three people after a rare flower by poet Natan Zach, and Ofra Knispel's *Can't Take It Anymore* ("Lo Yacholim Yoter") about a woman who takes the chief rabbi hostage. The festival play in both halls at Tzavta from April 2 to 4.

### Sobol's 'Village' big hit in Berlin

The Geshen Theater production of Yehoshua Sobol's nostalgic look at life here up to 1948, *Kfar* (Village), has won raves from Berlin audiences and critics. Next Monday it goes to Washington's Kennedy Center to join other Israeli companies for *Art of the State: Israel at 50*.

### Jazz in Ashdod

Bustling Ashdod signs on with *Jazz in Winter*, the fourth of its kind, on March 20 and 21 at the municipal auditorium. The combos range from some ambitious and talented kids, the Fuse Quintet, to eminent jazz veterans like Albert Piamenta with his Camoun Quintet and again as part of the Hana's Kidmit big band which also features Avraham Felder on trumpet. Felder comes back with his combo, called Isradixie, playing (what else?) Dixie. There's also guitarist Baldi Olier in a program of jazz flamenco with dancer Sonya Gracia, and another quintet called Takumi which plays a glorious mix of everything. There'll be four concerts each evening from 8:30.

### ITV 3 appeals to late-night viewers

Night owls with cable can now watch TV until 1 a.m. on ITV 3 (33) from Thursday through Sunday. The new service, primarily in Arabic, is aimed mostly at the inhabitants of Arab countries. Programs will range from soap operas to current affairs.

### Ecstatic Israel Ballet

Ecstasy is what happens to young lovers and to fledglings as, suddenly, they soar, and to the dancers of the Israel Ballet in *Ecstasy*, Berta Yampolsky's new ballet. Her company performs her new work in its world premiere at the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center on March 29.

Yampolsky, IB's founding artistic director, describes the 30-minute ballet as "variations on movement and rhythm, a thoroughly contemporary work which keeps nothing back. It's pure dance, no gimmicks." Adapting the language of modern dance to classical ballet allows the development of "different and interesting lines." Percussion provides *Ecstasy*'s music. The evening also contains another Yampolsky piece, *Two by Two and Everyone* and *Symphony in C* by George Balanchine.

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## Bad manners

In a recent interview, British Ambassador David Manning told this newspaper, "We want to be seen as a partner, somebody with whom Israel can discuss serious issues in a serious way." This is certainly a laudable goal, but one that may be set back, rather than advanced, by British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook's visit to Israel today.

Cook originally planned, during his one-day trip to Israel and the Palestinian Authority, to visit Jerusalem's Har Homa area accompanied by Faisal Hussein. So far, Israel has convinced Cook not to be accompanied to the site by Hussein, who holds the Jerusalem portfolio for the Palestinian Authority. Cook's visit to Har Homa is now being billed as a "private visit."

Given that Cook is probably not looking to buy an apartment on Har Homa, it is unclear what is "private" about the visit. If Cook had just wanted to see the Jerusalem neighborhood-to-be for himself, Israeli officials would no doubt have been willing to give him a tour. But by announcing his intention to visit escorted by a Palestinian leader, Cook was making an obvious bid to strengthen the Palestinian cause in Jerusalem.

The British, as pioneers in the fields of contracts, should be especially sensitive to what agreements say and do not say. The Oslo Accords not only do not prohibit Israel from building anywhere in Jerusalem, they explicitly exclude Jerusalem from Palestinian jurisdiction in the interim phase. At the same time, the British are decidedly lackadaisical about the flow of provisions within Oslo that the Palestinians have yet to implement.

The best one can say about Cook's original plan for his visit is that it displays extremely bad manners. It would be unthinkable, for example, for an Israeli foreign minister to visit Belfast accompanied by Gerry Adams or another IRA representative. Even this example does not do the situation justice, because the IRA is not making a bid for half of London, while the Palestinians do want to establish their capital in half of Israel's capital, Jerusalem.

Moreover, it would be considered bad form for an Israeli official to issue a plan, in a demanding tone, to resolve the conflict in Northern Ireland. The process of outside powers suggesting solutions to conflicts is well-established, but it is generally based on both sides

accepting the mediation of the third party. The US represents a different case. In addition to having automatic standing as a mediator by virtue of its status as the world's only remaining superpower, the US has carefully cultivated its role through strong support for Israel while maintaining close relations with the Arab world.

This is not to say that Europe must be demonstrably "pro-Israel" to gain standing as a mediator in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Israel would have no right to object if Cook acted as a friendly leader in both Jerusalem and Arab capitals, while delivering "tough" messages to both sides. It is possible to be "pro-Arab" without being "anti-Israel."

But by provocatively taking the Arab side on Jerusalem, even before final-status talks begin, Britain seems to be trying to repair its relations with the Arab world at Israel's expense.

It is perhaps understandable that Britain would be looking for ways to improve its relations with the Arab world following the latest crisis with Iraq. Britain is certainly to be commended for standing with the US in its effort to enforce UN resolutions in Iraq.

But an effort to contain Saddam—or better yet, help the Iraqi people remove him—should hardly be considered an anti-Arab policy. Saddam is at least as much a threat to his Arab neighbors as to Israel.

During the Iraq crisis, the US and Britain rightly resisted the efforts of some Arab states to twist the conflict into an Arab-Israeli one. With the Iraqi crisis over for now, Britain seems to be sharpening its policy towards Israel. On March 5, Cook pointedly chose a speech to the Anglo-Arab Association as the opportunity to unveil Europe's own six-point plan to restart the peace process.

Though the plan, and Britain's position on Jerusalem, are similar to American positions, the tone is calibrated to focus pressure mainly on Israel. If this is an effort to "compensate" for its position on Iraq, then Britain is playing into a dangerous and counterproductive effort to link the two conflicts.

If anything is damaging US and European influence in the Arab world, it is the sense that Saddam emerged unscathed from his showdown with the Western alliance. A policy of unbalanced toughness toward Israel will neither repair that damage nor advance the peace process.

ALEX 98



## Beyond the pain

EVELYN GORDON

It is virtually impossible to open a newspaper or turn on the radio these days without hearing about the recession. Businessmen, labor leaders, journalists and politicians all seem to agree that the country's economic state is terrible, and getting worse. Disaster, we are told, is just around the corner, unless the government takes urgent action.

Against this background, the data published by the Central Bureau of Statistics last week is surprising. The bureau reported that Israel's balance of payments deficit—which reached record proportions under the Rabin-Peres government, and was universally acknowledged by economists as the country's most threatening economic problem—was slashed by 32 percent in 1997, to \$3.6 billion, from \$5.3b. in 1996. Even more surprising for an economy in the doldrums, this decrease was achieved not by a slump in imports, but by a \$1.5b. increase in exports.

Most surprising of all, foreign investment in Israel increased by a whopping 42 percent in 1997, to \$3.4b., up from \$2.4b. in 1996. What could foreigners find so attractive in a country that is not only wallowing in recession, but as we are daily told, is also under the constant threat of political violence due to a frozen peace process?

The answer is that there are two kinds of recession. One is the collapse brought on by years of reckless overspending and bad policies. The other is the result of radical surgery to correct such policies. The latter is not necessarily any less painful than the former. The only difference is that in the second case, there is light at the end of the tunnel. And it is this light, symbolized by the decline in the balance of payments deficit, that foreign investors had in view in 1997.

The Rabin-Peres years are commonly looked back on fondly by businessmen, journalists and ordinary workers as years of stunning economic growth, when everything was good. Economists, however, were aware that the good life was a mirage—a tempo-

rary boom brought on by massive government overspending, heavy borrowing and high inflation, for which the bill was liable to come due all too soon. It was the equivalent of the man who runs up thousands of shekels worth of bills on his credit card—he can live high off the hog for a while, but when the bills come due, he may well be facing bankruptcy.

The Netanyahu government, despite all its fits and starts and half-hearted measures, has made a steady and consistent effort over the past two years to reverse this situation. With the able assistance of the Bank of Israel, inflation was brought down to its lowest level in decades last year (6.9 percent), the budget deficit has been slowly but steadily reduced, the balance of payments deficit has plunged.

In addition, progress is slowly being made on privatization and other structural reform. It has not been as quick or dramatic as Netanyahu once promised, but it is visible. For instance, a controlling stake in Israel's largest bank, Hapoalim, has been sold off (in contrast to the Rabin government, which sold off only non-controlling stakes in Hapoalim and the second-largest bank, Leumi), and international phone calls have been opened to competition (a plan prepared by the Rabin government, but never implemented).

Of an effort by the current Israeli government to prove to the world that Israel is full of ideas and goodwill regarding progress in the peace process, and that it is the Arabs who are the rejectionists.

**Sharon's proposal looks like a challenge the Lebanese are going to find very difficult not to accept**

The only problem with this public relations maneuver is that all the proposals so far officially presented by Israel—on both the Palestinian and Lebanese fronts—are proposals that no one, either in Jerusalem or in the foreign governments approached by it, really expects the other side to accept. It is against this background that the proposal made over the weekend by National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon, is refreshing—though it too might prove to be little more than a trick. What Sharon is proposing is that Israel start implementing Security Council Resolution 425 unilaterally.

Israel, says Sharon, should start withdrawing from various sectors in southern Lebanon, informing the Lebanese government in advance which area it plans to evacuate next, and making it quite clear to the Lebanese leaders that it expects them to bring the Lebanese army into the evacuated area and contain the activities of the Hizbullah and other organiza-

THE result of all this, inevitably, is pain. Radical surgery usually is painful. But ultimately, it is aimed at restoring the patient to health. Only by these painful efforts to lower inflation, reduce the budget and balance of payments deficits, and introduce structural reforms can the economy be returned to a path of sustainable, as opposed to temporary, growth.

A day after publication of the Central Bureau of Statistics data last week, Stanley Fischer, vice-president of the International Monetary Fund, sent an unusual letter to Finance Minister Yaaqov Neeman. In this letter, written as the IMF was completing its annual report on the Israeli economy for 1997, Fischer wrote that he usually sends such missives to protest bad government policies. It was therefore, he said, a pleasure for him to send a letter which contained only praise: for Israel's measures to reduce inflation, its efforts at structural reform and privatization, and its budgetary restraint.

Fischer and the IMF are no more ignorant of Israel's slowing growth and rising unemployment than the foreign investors who gave the economy their vote of confidence in 1997. Both, however, see these as temporary phenomena brought on by efforts to correct the previous years' errors. And both expect the temporary pain to give way to much stronger, more sustained growth in the future.

It is both unreasonable and unfair to ask the man who has just lost his job to appreciate the need for these corrective measures. But from business leaders, politicians and the media, it is possible to demand a greater degree of responsibility. It is time for all of these groups to stop trying to sabotage the government's initiatives. The Netanyahu government has certainly made its share of blunders, but overall, it has been moving in the right direction on the economic front. It deserves the public's support in these efforts.

The writer comments on current affairs.

## Three cheers

ALAN DERSHOWITZ

While the Clinton administration is busy trying to impose censorship on the Internet, while religious groups are destroying constitutionally protected books containing photographs of naked children and while most Americans seem to be unconcerned about their loss of liberty, the First Amendment is alive and well in Coeur D'Alene, Idaho.

The Aryan Nations, a despicable group of Nazi thugs, decided to celebrate the birthday of their hero, Adolf Hitler, with a parade. Instead of trying to ban the Nazi parade as the town of Skokie, Ill., did in 1978, the town of Coeur D'Alene came up with a creative solution entirely consistent with the letter and spirit of the First Amendment. Many of their citizens decided to leave town and attend a human rights rally across the state line in Washington.

They expect to raise as much as \$1 million for human rights and for responding to the hate spewed out by Idaho's few Nazis. When the Nazi creeps march down the streets of Coeur D'Alene, no one will be there.

They will be greeted by signs in the windows and shops saying "Closed to Hate."

The marketplace of ideas is left open and Nazism is rejected on its merits, rather than by some Big Brother or Big Sister telling Americans that they are not mature enough or intelligent enough to evaluate the Nazis and toss their ideas into the garbage pail where they belong. The answer to bad speech should never be censorship. It should be good speech.

Contrast what Coeur D'Alene is wisely doing with what Skokie foolishly did 20 years ago. Skokie managed to turn a few Nazis into a cause celebre. The American Civil Liberties Union had to defend them—rightly, in my view.

The Nazis were given free television time. The story was made into a television movie starring Danny Kaye. In the end, the Nazis who wanted to march through Skokie won a propaganda victory because they were censored.

The Nazis who want to march through Coeur D'Alene will suffer a propaganda defeat because

**We can all learn an important lesson from the wise people of Coeur D'Alene**

the people of Coeur D'Alene used the First Amendment against them.

We can all learn an important lesson from the wise people of Coeur D'Alene. Whenever a later like Farnham, Falwell, Buchanan, Fuhman or the Aryan Nations wants to speak, let them. But do not let their hateful comments go unanswered.

Use the occasion of their speech as an opportunity to teach equality, justice and the American way. When Americans are presented with both sides of an issue, most have historically responded by rejecting racism, bigotry and hate; not always, but no country has been immune from these cancers.

Colleges and universities, in particular, should learn from Coeur D'Alene's actions. Today's campuses have become hotbeds of censorship, with speech codes, disciplinary proceedings, and vague "hostile environment" sexual harassment rulings administered by censorious students, deans and presidents.

Instead of using hateful speech as an opportunity to educate, these lazy cowards immediately jump to censor anything that offends anyone. No one learns anything from shutting down the marketplace of ideas. But we all learn from opening it up to the widest array of viewpoints.

Even Holocaust denial speech—among the most offensive imaginable—should not be censored. It should, however, stimulate education about the terrible truth of the Holocaust. The same is true of racist, sexist, homophobic and other bigoted speech.

Bad speech provides a wonderful springboard for good speech, especially in this age of lethargy.

I am sending a contribution to the sponsors of the human rights rally across the border from Coeur D'Alene. I will send contributions to any group that fights bigotry with free speech. I urge everyone who hates Nazism and loves freedom of speech to do likewise. The result will be that every time Nazis march, they will be raising money for anti-Nazi causes.

Three cheers for the good people of Coeur D'Alene. They have taught the world how to deal with the growing phenomenon of neo-Nazi speech. Do not ignore it. Do not censor it. Answer it. Defeat it in the marketplace of ideas.

(United Feature Syndicate, Inc.)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### BRITISH IMPARTIALITY

Sir—All throughout the era of British mandate in Palestine, England fostered her own interests, thus becoming a guardian of the Arabs in whose territories the British oil investments lay.

The impartiality of the British is manifestly in our eyes of independence, in which she helped and armed the hordes of Sir John Glubb Pasha. The British military stood by and did not prevent the cold-blooded massacre of the Hebrew University

personnel, students, doctors and scientists, on the Scopus convoy in April '48. The English authorities systematically disarmed Hagana members defending Jewish families and settlements, so as to make the Jews an easy prey for the Arab murderers.

I wonder, if it is not appropriate for the British to use the good services of the most ancient people, namely the Jewish nation, to ask them to send our foreign secretary to visit the "occupied territory" in

Northern Ireland. He might try to arbitrate between the interests of the Irish republic and those of the British crown. Such an action might prevent further bloodshed of innocent people so as to establish, at long last, peace in the north-western tip of Europe.

**BENJAMIN S. FRAENKEL**  
 Professor of Physics,  
 The Hebrew University,  
 Jerusalem.

### EU ROLE

Foreign Minister Robin Cook place sole blame on Israel for the current impasse. The EU does not publicly criticize Palestinian non-compliance with the Oslo Accords and its long-term Middle East policy rests on promoting economic/political links to Arab/Muslim states, the primary purchasers of European products, including weapons.

The EU's economic aid to

Palestinians, though positive, does not constitute the purchase price of a greater political role in the peace process. Such a role can come only when Europe wins the trust of Israel, but a pro-Arab/pro-Iranian stance prevents such trust developing.

**ROBERT KIRK**

Eilat.

### PERFIDIOUS ALBION

that Britain's Foreign Secretary Robin Cook and Prime Minister Tony Blair are coming to Israel to put pressure on us regarding "our peace talks." They insist (although their Mandate here ended 50 years ago) that we continue to negotiate with a "partner" who uses his "military wings" (Fatah, Hamas, Islamic Jihad) to attack us, kill our people and sow terror. A partner

who has also not kept one single undertaking set down in written, signed agreements.

In other words Britain is saying to us "Don't do as I do, just do as I say!" Talk about perfidious Albion.

**EMANUEL FISCHER**

Jerusalem.

### OUTSTANDING

fied and respectful manner in which the people presented themselves and conducted themselves.

It was like walking into... civilization. In Israel! Wow!

Thanks to Sam Orbanum ("Not Page One," March 2), I know why. The people have elected an out-

standing mayor and his decency and leadership (along with their good taste and discernment) is reflected in the grace and charm of this city.

**RENEE HADAR**

Rishon LeZion.

## FROM OUR ARCHIVES

45 years ago: On March 17, 1953, The Palestine Post reported that the Polish Legation there had lodged a protest concerning over 100 cases of Polish Jews who were arrested, confined in a secret place and tortured.

41 years ago: On March 17,

1948, The Palestine Post reported that in its monthly letter to the Security Council, the UN Palestine Commission complained that "inescapable indications point to the present conditions that when the Mandate is terminated Palestine is likely to suffer severely from administrative chaos and widespread strife

and bloodshed caused by the policy of the Mandatory Government not to cooperate in the implementation of the UN Partition decision." The Commission had also described as "unsatisfactory" the British stand on the question of establishment of armed militias.

**Alexander Zvielli**

JP March 1950



# Formidable tool to fight global crime

As the Mossad stumbles from one blunder to the next, Interpol has shaken off its embarrassing, dinosaur image to stand at the cutting edge of sophisticated crime detection. Jack Nelson reports from Lyon, France

When police in Luxembourg arrested a Nigerian national suspected of trafficking in heroin from Thailand last year, they believed they had a workaday case of small-time smuggling. Purely as a matter of routine, they passed the information along to Interpol headquarters here.

Interpol analysts put the report together with data from other sources, and an unexpected picture snapped into focus: a huge drug ring operating in more than 30 countries across Africa, Central America, Asia, Europe and North America.

Acting on Interpol's evidence, police arrested additional suspects, including a Nigerian drug lord now awaiting trial in Denmark.

Moreover, Interpol's work provided new material for an investigation of what a US law enforcement agent describes as the drug world's hottest and most successful new method of distributing its products: the international postal system.

"They are smuggling through the mail such amounts as 500 grams at a time, small compared to the huge amounts the cartels are used to shipping at one time," the US agent said. "But altogether, tons and tons are being mailed."

Key to Interpol's success in the Luxembourg case were its vast computer data base and its ability to link seemingly unrelated suspects from airline flight records, telephone numbers, criminal records and code names.

Such sophisticated crime detection may be just what most Americans would expect from an international law enforcement agency that gave rise to "The Man From Interpol," the James Bond-style television series that began in the 1960s.

For most of Interpol's history, however, the reality has been far different.

UNTIL relatively recently, Interpol — or, formally, the International Criminal Police Organization — was best known among law enforcement experts for its outdated technology, labyrinthine bureaucracy and unreliable protection of sensitive intelligence information.

"Frankly, it was embarrassing and not quite relevant to the needs of law enforcement around the world," says Peter J. Nevitt, a former British police official who directs Interpol's information and technology department.

Interpol was so far behind the curve technologically that it was still using Morse code as recently as a few years ago to communicate with some member countries in the developing world.

Only after a decade of sometimes painful reform was Interpol

turned into a formidable instrument for combating global crime.

Some experts say its newfound capabilities may be on the line when Interpol's member nations choose a new chief, perhaps as early as next year. The candidates as of now are Michel Richardot, head of the French police academy, and Ronald K. Noble, US Treasury undersecretary for enforcement during the first Clinton administration.

Under the leadership of a veteran police official from Scotland Yard, Interpol has brought its technological capabilities up to date, streamlined its operations and tightened its security.

Now, more than 150 of Interpol's 177 member nations are linked by computer in the world's most extensive law enforcement communications network.

By the end of 1998, Nevitt said, all Interpol members will be connected to "the world's first qualified, fully equipped international communications network, capable of sending messages throughout the world in 120 seconds."

As a result of these and other changes, Interpol now enjoys considerable trust and cooperation from law enforcement agencies in the major countries that once paid lip service to the idea of the organization, but in reality kept it at arm's length.

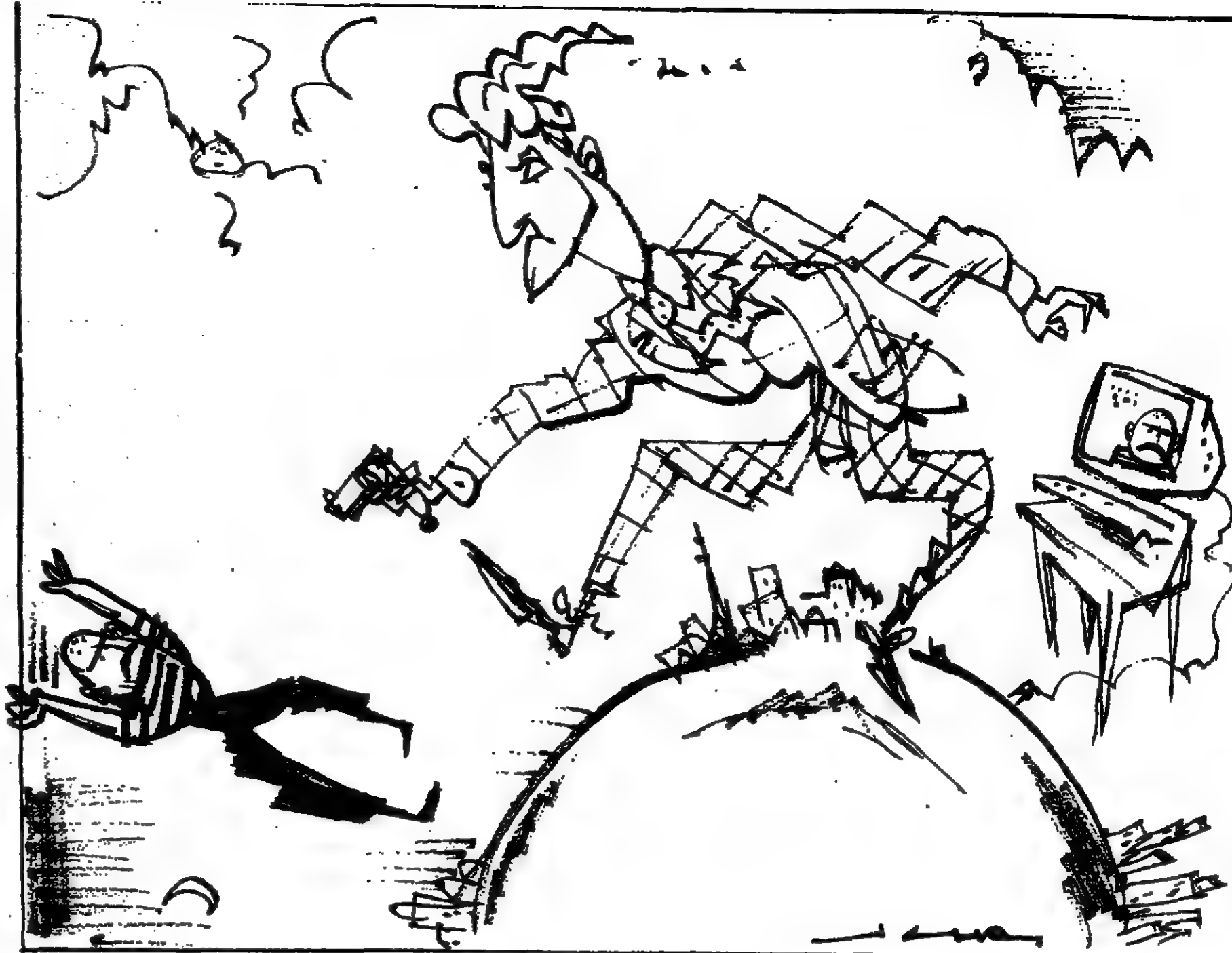
Indeed, with international crime increasing sharply as the economy goes global, many experts regard Interpol as vital in bringing not only drug smugglers but also such transnational criminals as fraud artists, money launderers, pedophiles and computer crooks to justice.

Political fugitives also find their way onto Interpol's radar scope. In November, as a result of an Interpol request from Bangladesh, agents from the FBI and the Immigration and Naturalization Service arrested A.K.M. Mohiuddin Ahmed in Los Angeles in connection with the 1975 killing of the country's president, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, and various other officials during a military coup.

Interpol traced Ahmed to Los Angeles, where he was arrested at an INS office while seeking an extension of his US visa. After his arrest, Ahmed, a former Bangladeshi ambassador to Iraq who arrived in the US in July 1996, acknowledged being involved in the killings.

After an appeal for political asylum was denied, Ahmed posted a \$15,000 bond in Los Angeles and was set free. The INS is now seeking to deport him.

Interpol has also played a key role in locating missing persons, especially children. It was Interpol agents who located 8-year-old Crystal Leann Anzaldi, who had



disappeared from her San Diego home when she was 14 months old.

The girl was located in Puerto Rico in October, living with a woman who claimed to be her mother, after Interpol agents investigating a case of suspected child abuse matched her with a picture they found on an Internet site operated by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

THE Vienna, Austria-based International Criminal Police Commission, Interpol's predecessor, was essentially a European organization, one of whose bureaus had the ominous task of handling "the Gypsy nuisance."

When Germany overran Austria in 1938, it moved the agency to Berlin and turned it into an arm of the Gestapo, with its files available for tracking down Jews, Gypsies and homosexuals.

After the war police officials meeting in Brussels, Belgium, revived the ICPC, renamed it the International Criminal Police Organization and moved its headquarters to Paris.

They chose "Interpol" as its telegraphic address, and the word became synonymous with the organization.

For many years, however, although it occasionally provided data that helped law enforcement agencies around the world, Interpol languished under the tight control of the French, who operated it as though it were part of the French government bureaucracy.

Fenton Bessley, a British attorney and longtime student of Interpol, wrote in a 1992 book of "the dead hand of the French bureaucracy," the "widespread dissatisfaction with the increased slowness of the organization" and "its shortage of modern equipment."

Some member nations, including the US, believed that French domination undercut Interpol's status as a truly international body. The French had even managed to have inserted into Interpol's constitution a line stipulating that the secretary-general "should preferably be a national of the country in which the seat of the organization is situated."

Not until 1985, when the US led a rebellion against French domination, did Interpol elect Raymond Kendall of Scotland Yard to be its first non-French secretary-general since the war. A French newspaper referred to Kendall's election as an "Anglo-American takeover."

Kendall moved Interpol's head-

quarters to an ultramodern, six-story glass structure along the Rhone River in Lyons and initiated a \$25 million high-tech development program.

**Experts see a reformed Interpol as vital in bringing transnational criminals — drug smugglers, fraud artists, money launderers, pedophiles and computer crooks — to justice**

With aid from the US and several other governments, Interpol contributed about \$5.5 million worth

of computers, modems and other gear to more than 100 countries.

Today the building's high-wire fence, guards, locks and metal detectors reflect more than tighter security. They symbolize the changed attitudes within the organization.

Even the headquarters' winding hallways contribute to Interpol's new focus. The walls are lined with photographs, each bearing a color tab: red for murderers, terrorists and persons wanted for other major crimes; blue for persons about whom Interpol or a member nation seeks a location and additional information; green for persons suspected of involvement in international criminal activity; yellow for missing persons, and black for an unidentified corpse.

Interpol's "red notices," which signify that a member nation seeks the suspect's apprehension and extradition, have contributed to the arrest of several of the world's most wanted. Among them: Carlos the Jackal, the Venezuelan terrorist nabbed in Sudan in 1994, and Ira Einhorn, known as the "hippie killer," convicted of murdering his girlfriend in Philadelphia in 1977.

Einhorn was arrested last June in

a farmhouse in southern France after information his Swedish wife provided for a driver's license was spotted by an agent on an Interpol database. But a French court set him free last month rather than extradite him to the US, where, according to his French lawyer, the American justice system would not have treated him fairly.

A red notice posted in July at the request of British authorities got even quicker results. The subject was a bartender wanted in connection with the murder of his pub's owner.

Interpol's Washington office, tracking financial records, traced the man to Colorado and alerted the Colorado Bureau of Investigation to a man with a glass eye and an Australian accent.

Hours later, a highway patrolman recognized the suspect after stopping him for speeding 90 mph on a motorcycle in rural northeastern Colorado.

"It's the kind of case that shows the value of instantaneous communications and cooperation that Interpol brings to international law enforcement," said John Imhoff, a 22-year FBI veteran who heads Interpol's Washington office. (Los Angeles Times)

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## Farewell, Dr. Spock

I have to admit that I felt quite sad when I learned yesterday that Dr. Benjamin Spock had died.

Not that I knew the world-famous guru of baby and child care personally, but you start to care about the man you rely on for advice when your child is running a high fever and coughing uncontrollably in the middle of the night, who told you which first solid food your kid can digest, and whom you expected to assist you through your child's toilet-training.

That said, I must confess that I'd been having second thoughts about Dr. Spock in recent weeks. He'd been getting some rather troubling press, as a result of persistent financial and health problems. Apparently, Dr. Spock's

would probably say that the need for such role models begins with our parents, who we wish to be infallible and super-human, and inevitably end up disappointing us, though hopefully only in minor ways.

In these days of presidential and prime ministerial scandals, and revelations about our all-too-flawed leaders, there's been a lot of talk of separating the personal and professional.

Now that Spock has passed on, it seems absurd to me that some of the vagaries of his private life should stop me from taking much of the sensible advice I always find in his book, *Baby and Child Care* which has sold more than 50 million copies and was translated into 39 languages.

Recently, the 50th anniversary of the publication of *Baby and*

### Home Front



Allison Kaplan Sommer

So Benjamin Spock was a little bit troubled and flaky in his old age. So what? That won't lessen the contribution he made to my life and the lives of other nervous first-time parents.

wife (some 40 years his junior) has been hitting up friends lately for money to pay for her husband's regular massages, dietitian appointments, and psychoanalyses three times a week, without which, she said, he could not function.

I was pretty concerned. This was, after all, the guy who was supposed to be giving me directions on how to raise a well-adjusted kid. I began to question the source of the advice I was using on child-rearing.

Yes, I knew Dr. Spock was only human and flawed like the rest of us. But I couldn't help it. I expected more from a man I've been depending on to help shape my child's character. Were my expectations too high?

In some professions, it is obvious why you hold people to certain standards. After all, you don't expect your hairstylist, your sport a purple crewcut, your accountant instructor to develop a pot belly, or your manicurist to bite her nails.

And when you look to someone for moral and religious direction, inevitably your standards rise even higher. That is why we are so hard, for instance, on rabbis, ministers, or other spiritual leaders who are caught lying, cheating, or stealing.

Freud (who gave lots of people advice on how to conduct their lives but wasn't exactly a paragon of stability himself)

*Child Care* was celebrated, and many people looked back and appreciated what Dr. Spock brought to the business of child-rearing. True, he took a lot of heat for being a traditionalist — after all, any advice given in the 1950s would look fairly politically incorrect in the '90s. But the truth is that he was never afraid to correct himself or revise his books.

His advice was always straightforward, to the point, and gave you the information you needed. Though he pioneered a more "child-centric" approach to family life, he never forgot that parents were people, too, and that when caring for an infant, toddler or older child a balance must be struck between the needs of the offspring and the needs of the parent.

What I liked best about Dr. Spock is that he always urged parents to "trust your instincts." There were no definitive right or wrong answers. He also always stressed that there was no better formula for raising happy secure kids than to show them as much love and affection as possible.

So, he was a little bit troubled and flaky in his old age. So what? That won't lessen the contribution he made to my life and the lives of other nervous first-time parents.

Rest in peace, Dr. Spock. You will always have a place on my bookshelf. You may be gone, but you will not be forgotten.

## Romance novels R you

For a few dollars and a lot of delicious details, you can be the hero or heroine of your own paperback romantic novel. Jerry Zezima reports

The intense brown eyes of my ruggedly handsome face blaze brightly as I write these brilliant words, my iron muscles rippling with every dashing stroke, my keen mind racing with the consuming thought that my one true love is burning with a fiery passion, not only to kiss my full, masculine lips but to tell me, in urgent, breathless tones, to get off my duff and take out the garbage.

And why not? I am, after all, the hero of *Emerald Seduction*, a new romance novel by the queen of pulp fiction, Desiree Lamour (a.k.a. Lynn Knowles, the playful genius behind this publishing phenomenon). I saw that there were two forms, one for the hero and one for the heroine. The hero form was easy: I filled in my name and provided such pertinent information as eye color (intense brown), hair type (curly), body type (roughly handsome) and occupation (news-paper columnist).

My wife, who is, of course, my one true love, even when she tells me to take out the garbage, helped me with the heroine, whose name, I decided, would be Ivana Love. Her personal details included eye color (enticing

green), hair color (raven black), body type (voluptuous), personality traits (fiery, passionate, sensitive) and occupation (forensic pathologist). Other details important to the story were favorite restaurant (Chez Stadium), special song ("Hound Dog") and villain (Sy Attica).

The next day I went to work, faxed all this information to Personal Passions and, boiling with desire, waited. Two weeks later, my very own copy of *Emerald Seduction* (subtitled *The Tale of a Great Love*) arrived in the mail. It is, needless to say, a masterpiece. The cover features a stunning couple (me and Ivana, presumably) locked in a passionate embrace in front of a roaring fire. The book is inscribed "To Ivana Love, the world's greatest lover of all time — Jerry Zezima."

The story, which probably would be rated PG, opens as Ivana is carrying groceries to her car. Distracted by the sight of a dazzling emerald pendant in a jewelry store, she collides with "a very surprised, very solid man" (me), who apologizes and offers to buy her dinner. "He held out a tanned hand and added, 'By the way, I'm Jerry Zezima.'"

"Ivana Love," she replied. His strong hand clasped hers as she gazed into his ruggedly handsome face.

The next evening, we meet at Chez Stadium. "Jerry took back to admire her sensual beauty and smiled with pleasure. 'I'm glad you came,' he said softly. She felt herself begin to glow with a pleasure that radiated across her exquisite face. 'So am I,' she breathed."

Naturally, Ivana and I fall instantly in love. But there are dark secrets. "She was surprised to learn that he was a newspaper columnist, but she did not pursue it. It was hard to believe that this man's life was as dull as he made it out to be. 'Uneventful' was the word he had used. Little did Ivana know how far from the truth that would prove to be."

Enter the villain, Sy the Baron von Attica. I won't spoil it for you, but the Baron has a dastardly scheme to smuggle jewels from my emerald mines, which I run when I am not writing a column. This places Ivana in great danger from which I, the hero, must save her.

I suppose I won't be giving anything away by revealing that Ivana and I live happily ever after. "She raised her face to look deeply into his eyes. Her beauty was so breathtaking, it nearly broke his heart. 'Never let me go,' she breathed at last, contented. 'I won't,' I vowed, he said, 'Never again.'"

(The *Stanford Advocate*)



MEIR ROSENBERG '98

### GRAPEVINE

By GREER FAY CASHMAN



Ehud Barak making a cameo appearance on Purim with his masquerading children. (Israel Hadari)

## King for a night

Usually I'm the ambassador. Tonight I am the king," said South African Ambassador Frank Land as he greeted guests at the Purim party which he and his wife, Maatches, hosted at their home in aid of Yad B'Yad, the organization that offers warm homes to children from economically and emotionally deprived backgrounds.

Scepter in hand, Land was decked out in a jewel-encrusted gold crown and floor-length purple velvet gold-trimmed cape. Rather than play the "queen," his wife opted for a dress that synthesized Carmen and Scarlett O'Hara.

Participants included Land's predecessor, Malcolm Ferguson, who now heads the Middle East desk at the South African Foreign Ministry.

Yugoslavian Ambassador Mirko Stefanovic had gotten hold of an Israeli police uniform. To make sure he wouldn't get into trouble, Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalany temporarily recruited him into the police force, stipulating that Stefanovic's jurisdiction did not extend beyond the kitchen.

Egyptian ambassador Mohammed Bassiouny came without his wife, Nagwa, who had another social engagement. Tel Aviv mayor Ronni Milo arrived at the tail end of the speech by Yad B'Yad founder and president Shlomo Hoshen and encountered some good-natured ribbing about his Adloyda Purim ride on a white horse.

Health Minister Yehoshua Matza told Milo that he should stay on the horse until at least 2004 — the implication being that then he would not challenge Binyamin Netanyahu for prime minister come next elections.

AT THE Purim party hosted by the Women in Green at Beit Orot, Moledet MK Rehavam Ze'evi came dressed as — what else? — a Woman in Green. Despite heavy competition from more creatively and exotically garbed guests, he won the prize for best costume.

On the other side of the political spectrum, Labor Party chairman Ehud Barak spent Purim at his home in Kochav Yair. Barak left all the masquerading to his children.

FORMER MK Geula Cohen, who hosts a radio talk show on Radio 2, was slightly nonplussed Thursday night, and small wonder. The news report halfway through her program contained an item stating that the attorney-general had authorized the police to conduct an investigation into allegedly fraudulent and corrupt activities by Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, who is Cohen's son.

BECAUSE Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and members of his family went to hear the reading of the Purim Megilla at the Jerusalem Great Synagogue, many of the regular congregants chose to go elsewhere. It wasn't that the Netanyahu weren't welcome; it was just that some people

don't like the idea of having to stand in line and be searched before entering a house of prayer.

IT'S NEVER too late to have a bar mitzva. Economics professor Norman Cohen might never have gotten around to it but for a chance meeting with Rabbi Emanuel Quint and his wife, Rena.

Former New Yorkers, the Quints, who live in Jerusalem, accompanied their good friends Marvin and Jane Klitsner to Milwaukee last year to celebrate the 105th birthday of Jane Klitsner's mother, Anna Traxler. There, they met Cohen and his wife, Lucille, who told them they were coming to Israel for the Klitsners' 50th wedding anniversary, which coincided with Cohen's 80th birthday.

"It's a shame it's not your 83rd birthday," said Quint. "Then we could also celebrate the 70th anniversary of your bar mitzva." "No we couldn't," retorted Cohen. "I never had a bar mitzva." "Do you want to have one in Jerusalem?" asked Quint. The answer was affirmative.

So last Saturday at Jerusalem's Hovevei Zion Synagogue Cohen not only had a bar mitzva but also participated with other *kohanin* in the priestly blessing of the congregation.

The Quints hosted a bar-mitzva luncheon at which the guests included the Klitsners, as well as Milwaukeeans Ruth and Jerry Traxler and Isabelle and Alfred Bader, an internationally renowned philanthropist, art expert and collector.

The Quints were so busy with the Cohen event that they almost forgot their own 39th wedding anniversary, which they celebrated on Sunday at the wedding of Marian Tolansky to Rabbi Macy Gordon.

WHEN the invitation to a party is for the day before Purim, it's only natural for guests to be asked to come in disguise. But friends who arrived at Jerusalem's Ariel Hotel for the bat mitzva of Talia, daughter of former San Francisco Jewish Federation Israel director Nathan Golan and his wife, Rhoda, were far outshine by the family, who had rented their attire from a theatrical costume company.

Natan, glittering and sparkling in a spectacular purple cutaway coat and matching hat, complemented Little Prince Aviel in gold and red velvet. But the real scene-stealers were Rhoda, Talia and older sister Dina, who dazzled the eye in bejeweled hooped crinolines. All that heavy metal made sitting down something of a challenge — but it didn't stop the ladies from dancing the night away.

Among the entertainment was a mini-musical, sung lustily by the family and dedicated to Talia, based on his from her favorite show, *Phantom of the Opera*. Natan, who has played leading roles in several JEST theater group productions, clearly felt at home on stage.

"You've made me feel like a queen tonight," said the beaming bat-mitzva girl.



Rehavam Ze'evi, out of costume. (Israel Suss)

## 'Will I see my children again?'

Dear Ruthie, My problem is very difficult for me to write about, but I need advice from someone like you. I have recently renewed contact with my children from my first marriage. They live in Copenhagen, where I left them with their mother 28 years ago. They are now married and have children of their own.

I am now 63 and have no way of going to visit them because of my low income, and a chronic fear of flying. They too have financial problems and can't afford the high cost of hotels in Israel.

I haven't told them about my income or fear of flying as it is an embarrassment to me. My present wife is a bit jealous because we also have two children here who would like very much to see their siblings. I am tired of making excuses and my health is not standing up to the strain of flying. I may never see my first children again before it is too late.

I know this sounds far-fetched but it's all true. And I would like to know if there is someone out there who can give me some sound advice. Will I ever see my children again?

Tied in Family Knots  
Tel Aviv

Dear Tied in Knots, Before dealing with the technical side of your problem, you must first unite the internal knots which are preventing you from seeing your options. The first and most difficult step is to be as honest as possible with yourself about the real source of the "strain" which is taking its toll on your health.

Though you make a point of stressing your low income and fear of flying, the thing which seems to be preventing you from working out a solution

"before it's too late" is your relationship with your wife, whom you describe as "jealous" of your desire to reunite with your first family, and of her children's desire to meet their siblings.

Another element you must consider is your own ambivalence regarding a family you left almost three decades ago and haven't seen since. As an active father to your second set of children, you probably feel extremely guilty towards your first set. If so, seeing them now that they are adults is probably causing you extreme anxiety.

Your wish to reunite with them may be a direct result of your deeper desire to take control of the parts of your life which you let slip out of your control. Your fear of flying may even be the expression which your fear of losing control has taken — the fear of losing your "ground."

As long as your own wavering remains, your wife will constitute an obstacle. As soon as you are at peace with your decision to meet with your previous family, your wife will have no alternative but to accept it.

If you can reach some degree of internal peace on this score, the geography and finances will work themselves out. For one thing, it is not necessary to fly to Copenhagen. You can go by boat and train. For another, you might be able to get a loan — either from the bank or from another source — to finance the trip. A third possibility is to have your Danish family come to Israel, and stay in a nearby rented flat, rather than in a hotel. If you really wish to see your estranged children again, there is a way. Allow yourself to find it.

Letters should be addressed to: 'Dear Ruthie,' POB 81, Jerusalem 91000. For E-mail: [ruthie@post.co.il](mailto:ruthie@post.co.il) ('Dear Ruthie' also appears in In Jerusalem and City Lights on Fridays.)

### Dear Ruthie



Ruthie Blum

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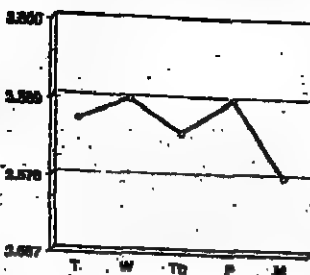
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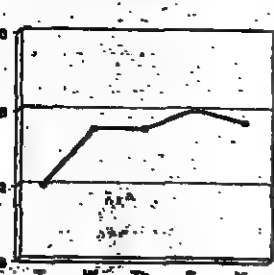
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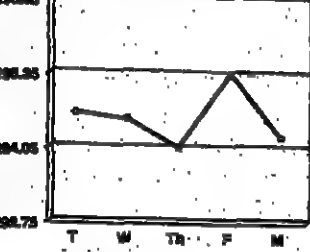


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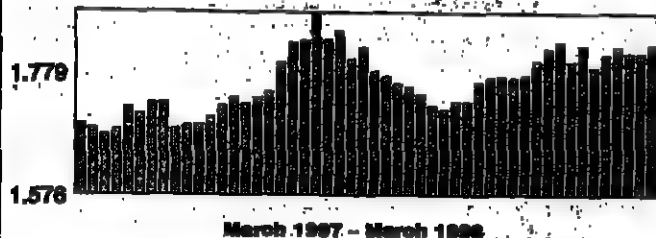


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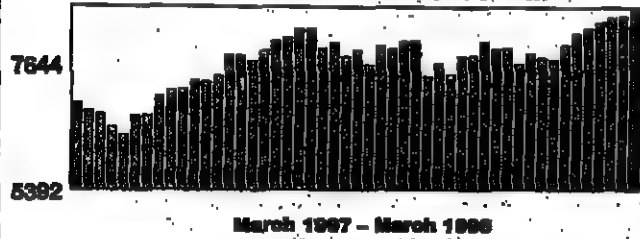
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#### Government debt still high

The government debt as a percentage of gross domestic product decreased for the third consecutive year in 1997 to 106 percent of GDP from 108% in 1996, the Bank of Israel said yesterday. In absolute terms, however, debt rose 3.1% after inflation, reaching NIS 360.8 billion. The central bank attributed the rise to a 5.3% increase in external debt, which amounts to some 25% of the total debt. The current rate is still substantially higher than the national debt of 60% of GDP set by the Maastricht Treaty for countries wishing to join the single European currency. *Dan Gerstenfeld*

#### IEC to raise \$575m. in the U.S.

The Israel Electric Corporation intends to raise some \$575 million by issuing bonds in the United States, the company's chairman, Gad Ya'acobi said yesterday. The company raised \$1.2 billion in Japan and the US by issuing global medium-term notes. The company hopes that it would be able to repeat the successful offering and raise an additional \$575m. by the end of the year. The utility said that it plans to use the money to improve customer service and improve its efficiency. *Dan Gerstenfeld*

#### Investments worth \$11m. approved

The Industry and Trade Ministry's Investment Center this week approved aid for investments totaling \$11 million. In July, a building materials company is to be established at an investment of \$3m. In Jerusalem, KTS systems is to make an \$800,000 expansion. A \$530,000 expansion of a high-tech company in Givatayim, BVR Technologies, was also approved. *Nina Gilbert*

#### M1 drops 0.6% in February

The Bank of Israel's M1 money supply gauge dropped 0.6 percent in February after rising 0.4% in January, the central bank said yesterday. The report follows Sunday's surprising announcement that the February consumer price index decreased by 0.1%, in what is seen as another sign of a slowdown in the economy. The M1, which includes the sum of currency, demand, deposit and travelers' checks, significantly reflects the credit given by the banks to the business sector. The money supply has risen 7.3% during the last 12 months. *Dan Gerstenfeld*

#### ECI forms Brazilian joint venture

ECI Telecom yesterday said that it has joined with Evadin, a Brazilian electronic industrial group, to form a company that will operate in Brazil. The company, named ECI Telecom do Brasil, will promote the sales and marketing of ECI products and solutions. Avi Tzur, president of the new company, said that the telecommunications market in Brazil is currently undergoing a restructuring process. He added that the new joint venture will combine ECI's technological advantage with Evadin's marketing capabilities. *Dan Gerstenfeld*

## Clal Electronics moves into the red

Clal Electronics Industries yesterday reported a fourth-quarter net loss of NIS 7.1 million, compared with a net profit of NIS 58.6m. in the corresponding period last year. The company attributed the decline to lower revenues and a one-time charge arising from the sale of its holdings in Mennen Medical. Revenues for the last quarter fell sharply to NIS 78.7m. from NIS 139.9m. a year earlier. During the whole of 1997, Clal reported a net profit of NIS 158.4m. compared with a net profit of NIS 119.8m. in 1996. Despite the rise in net profit, revenues fell in 1997 to NIS 317m. from NIS 326.3m. in the previous year. Clal holds stakes in some of Israel's leading electronic companies, including Stetec Corp and

ECI Telecom. ECI's net profit rose 30% in 1997 to NIS 468m. from NIS 359m. in 1996 and sales increased 15% last year to NIS 2.4 billion from NIS 2.1b. in the previous year. Scitex returned to earning profit after two straight years of losses; the company recorded a net profit of NIS 2m. in 1997 compared with a net loss of NIS 630m. in 1996. Sales fell meanwhile to NIS 2.4b. from NIS 2.5b. in 1996. Clal Electronics said that the loss in the fourth quarter includes allocations for expected losses arising mainly from the sale of its holdings in Mennen and a decline in the value of its holdings in AG Associates. The company said that its net profit before the one-time charge rose to NIS 31.1m. from NIS 7.2m.

## 1997 growth rate only 1.9%

Gross domestic product for 1997 rose by only 1.9 percent, while business product rose only 1.5%, according to figures published yesterday by the Central Bureau of Statistics. The report is seen as another indicator that the recession is deepening. During the last quarter of '97, there was a worrying decline in growth rate, investments, and the standard of living. The CBS adjusted its '97 figures downward by 0.2%, following shrinking investments and significant

slowdown in activities in the industrial and building sectors in the second half of the year. In previous estimates, published at the end of last year, the GDP rose 2.1%. Product per capita fell 0.5% last year, after rising 1.8% in '96, and 4.2% in '95. Product per capita amounted last year to NIS 58,000, which is \$17,000 in fixed prices, similar to '96. The CBS notes that the decline in the product per capita is worrisome, since it rose 2% in industrialized OECD countries. It has also become evident that per capita private consumption rose only 0.9% last year, compared to a 2.6% rise, and 4.6% rise in '96 and '95 respectively.

Per capita consumer product consumption dropped 1.3% during this period, compared to a 2.8% rise and a 13% rise respectively. General private consumption rose only 3.3%, compared to 5.2% in '96 and 7.4% in '95. The figures indicate a worsening of economic activity in the last quarter, and a drop in investments. Business product rose in the last quarter at an annual rate of only 0.4%, while the GDP rose only 1.2%. This represents the lowest growth level in recent years. Product per capita fell in the last quarter at an annual rate of 1.7%, compared to a fall of 0.7% in the previous quarter, and a standstill in the second quarter. Private consumption fell 2% per capita in the last quarter. Senior Finance Ministry officials were surprised by the extent

of the decline in investments and growth rate in the second half of the year. According to them, there will be only 1%-1.5% growth this year, compared to 3% as determined in the state budget. CBS economists also noted that the figures point to a severe slowdown in economic activity, particularly in the second half of the year. They added that January-February figures do not indicate a revival in the coming months. (Globes)



Protesting high interest rates

A demonstrator kicks a protective steel shutter on a bank during a protest against high interest rates in Manila yesterday. About 500 members of a consumer group protested against the high bank lending rates, which have pushed up prices of basic commodities. Bank traders said they expect the rates to go down in the coming days following the sharp reduction in the Treasury bill auction rates. (Reuters)

## One fifth of Palestinians live below poverty line - study

News agencies

About 19.1 percent of the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip live below the poverty line because of volatile labor conditions caused by frequent closures, a Palestinian study said yesterday. The study, carried out by the Palestinian Economics and Trade Ministry and the World Bank, said that Palestinians' economic conditions have worsened since the signing of the 1993 peace deals and economic protocols. The study said that "19.1% of the 2.5 million Palestinian population live under the poverty line, which means they get the equivalent of \$650 annually or \$2 per day."

At the same time, 500,000 Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip live on the poverty line, it said. Closures were the main reason for the slowdown in the Palestinian private sector and labor market, the study said. Since 1993, Israel has frequently sealed off the West Bank and Gaza Strip in response to suicide bombings. The closures, which restrict the movement of goods and people, have occasionally been eased, but never lifted completely. Tens of thousands of Palestinians

who worked in Israel have been affected by the closures. The number of laborers working in Israel dropped from 116,000 in 1993 to 28,000 in 1997. The study said that unemployment in the West Bank and Gaza has almost doubled since 1993, rising to 28.4% in 1997 from 18.2% in 1995. World Bank officials said the rate is considered to be among the highest in the world. The frequent closures have also pushed up the cost of transporting goods and pushed down the volume and value of trade. Between 1992 and 1995, revenues fell to 48% of gross national product from 61%, and exports dropped

from 14% of GNP to 12%, the study said. Maj.-Gen. Ya'acov Orr, IDF coordinator in the territories, told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee yesterday that the economic situation has improved in the territories, although it is still not satisfactory. He said there is no limit on the number of Palestinian workers entering Israel and there is increased trade between Israel and the autonomous areas. The improved feeling of well-being can reduce the ability of terrorist organizations to recruit activists, Orr said. *Liat Collins contributed to this report.*

## 100 Israeli companies at CeBIT '98

By NINA GILBERT

More than 100 Israeli companies are to participate in the prestigious CeBIT '98 annual technology exhibition in Hannover, Germany, which opens Thursday. Some 6,800 companies will have exhibits at the fair, where new technologies are unveiled for suppliers, buyers, journalists and government officials. "The exhibition is an important showcase for penetration of Israeli high-tech into the international market. The fair always brings in business, investments and cooperation agreements for Israeli high-tech companies," said Daniel Bloch of the Israel Export Institute. "CeBIT is the most important electronics and high-tech exhibition. Israel has become a fixture at the event," he added. The Israeli pavilion, which will

house 70 companies, is being organized by the Israel Export Institute. For the first time, it will include several start-up companies. Chief Scientist Orna Berry is to speak at the exhibit to highlight Israel's unique research and product development capabilities, especially in electronics and telecommunications, and its excellence in establishing new high-tech companies. Last year, three Israeli companies received a Best Product award, including the Jerusalem company Wizcom for its Quickvision product. New products to be displayed by Israeli companies include technology in the field of smart cards, translations, security protection for transferring data and pictures through the Internet and electronic mail, voice recognition technologies, faxes, anti-virus, cellular phones, and database surfing.

## Alltel to acquire 360 Communications for \$6b.

Alltel Corp., as expected, agreed to buy 360 Communications Co. for about \$6 billion in stock and assumed debt to expand its wireless phone business in the south-eastern US. Alltel will exchange 0.74 share for each of 360 Communications' 121.6 million shares, or about \$4.12 billion. 360 shareholders will get \$33.90 per share, less than 360's close of 35 5/8 on Friday, when the companies' negotiations first were reported. Buying 360 Communications will more than triple Alltel's wireless subscribers, making it a stronger competitor in BellSouth Corp.'s fast-growing southern

region. The purchase comes amid a wave of acquisitions in the phone industry as companies seek to offer a range of services from Internet access to long distance. "The acquisitions will continue," said Tony Ferrugia, an analyst at A.G. Edwards & Sons. Alltel also will assume \$1.85 billion in debt. "It's a pretty reasonable price," Ferrugia said. The combined company will have \$4.5 billion in annual revenue, more than 5.6 million customers in 22 states and more than 20,000 employees. The company will retain Alltel's Little Rock, Arkansas headquarters and market its services under the Alltel brand name. (Bloomberg)

## Employment Service chief: Hatred for foreign workers on the rise

By DAVID HARRIS

If Israel does not move quickly to drastically reduce the numbers of legal and illegal foreign workers the country will soon face a situation like that posed by the enormous influx of Turkish workers to Germany, according to Employment Service Director-General Moshe Dimri. "The Israeli economy is addicted to this [foreign labor], and it won't be easy to wean us of it," said Dimri. "The damage being caused here - socially, economically and even from a security perspective - as a result of the some 10 percent of the workforce being foreign is enormous. If there is no firm, courageous and clear policy, I fear that in another 10 years we'll see one million foreign workers in Israel. They will bring their wives, and their children will be born here."

Israelis are becoming increasingly alienated from and resentful of the foreign workers, he said. Asked if this could lead to type of scenes of violence witnessed against

Turkish workers in Germany, he replied "absolutely yes." "We are seeing [among the foreign workers] alcoholism, drug-taking, theft, prostitution and even incidents of rape," added Dimri. The Labor and Social Affairs Ministry, together with the Employment Service, are calling for: • A reduction in the numbers of workers from 10% of the workforce to 1%, "the sooner the better." • A widespread program for the extradition of illegal workers, done as "humanely as possible," so as not to create diplomatic incidents with the workers' countries of origin. • Increasing fines for employers of illegal workers from NIS 2,500 to NIS 50,000. "In order to replace the foreign workers we are prepared to increase the number of Palestinians workers from the current 50,000 to 100,000," said Dimri. "The Employment Service in the [Palestinian Authority] is working very closely with us on this."

## 'Shabbat main obstacle to El Al sale'

By NINA GILBERT

It won't be possible to privatize El Al as long as the issues of Shabbat flights and security arrangements aren't resolved, Knesset Economics Committee Chairman MK Avi Yehezkel (Labor) said yesterday. "Until a decision is made on both issues, it won't be possible to sell El Al to private investors. No owners will enter into such a deal," he said.

Currently the General Security Service is responsible for security. Yehezkel, who was speaking at a committee discussion on the privatization of the airline, said he did not believe the privatization could take place for another two years, under a different government.

He said the process must take into account the workers in all of its phases. The ministerial committee on privatization is to convene next week to consider new proposals for the sale of El Al.

A compromise solution to the Shabbat problem is to sell 49 percent of the company on the stock exchange, thus leaving government control of the airline and putting off the decision on Shabbat flights.

In his first appearance before the committee, Transport Minister Shaul Yaalon said he wants to advance the privatization of El Al under this government and to begin the process this year.

However, he said, the process must be carried out while ensuring several things. First, he said, \$180 million must be found to compensate workers.

The privatization should also be carried out via the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, and not sold to private investors, in order to prevent control of the airline by a few wealthy families or institutions which can buy almost any company offered for sale, he said. "This would not be good for El Al," he said, according to a protocol of the session.

Finally, he said, the government should make a decision to sell only 49% at the first stage and to keep 51% for at least two years.

This will ensure the preservation of the national nature of the airline and ensure the two principles this entails as the nation's airline: no Shabbat flights and security.

"El Al will remain a symbol of the country and an important principle of Judaism is Shabbat," Yaalon said. "This privatization is hardly a privatization," Yehezkel said in response.

El Al director-general Yoel Feldschuh said the proposal suggested by Yaalon "is excellent" and will help turn El Al into a business-oriented company that can compete in the world market. Israel should follow the example of other countries which have privatized national airlines, he said.

Government Companies Authority director-general Tzipi Livni noted that the original proposal submitted to the government was for the sale of all its shares in El Al. She said she supports Yaalon's proposal and would work to bring it before the ministerial committee.

Meanwhile, El Al's management yesterday decided to make cutbacks in its operations in Europe that are expected to save \$2 million. The company decided on the move due to the continued drop in tourism from Europe.

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## Building Blocks

By Nina Gilber

## TEL AVIV and the center

■ Reshet Nehesim, the realty chain specializing in commercial property, has recently entered the residential market. According to a survey conducted for the agency, housing prices will only recover in 1999. The agency said there is a glut in the Tel Aviv luxury housing market, which will make it difficult for contractors to raise prices. However, in some areas of Tel Aviv prices of apartments less than \$500,000 are expected to rise by 2 percent to 3%. In Givatayim and Ramat Gan, prices are expected to stay stable, whereas in Petah Tikva they are expected to rise by 8%, despite the massive building in the area. The firm is to offer 20 residential franchises this year.

■ Seven units have been sold in the past month in the Netanya Carmel Hotel for a total of \$880,000. The apartment hotel has 40-sq.m. studio units priced from \$118,000 and two-room apartments from \$172,000. The management allows buyers to rent the apartments to the hotel for \$400 a month for studios and to have the right to use them for 45 days a year. The luxury building, on the beach in southern Netanya, has a large swimming pool.

■ Until the end of the month, A.L.D.H. Building and Investments Ltd. is offering \$5,000 worth of appliances to buyers in its Pisgat Ha'ir project in Petah Tikva. Since the deal began, the company has sold 18 apartments for a total of \$3 million. The eight-story building has three and four-room apartments, priced from \$159,000 and \$189,000 and underground parking.

■ In Ashdod, Afidar is building a housing complex in a country-club style. The 15 buildings, including a total of 1,020 apartments, are to be built around a green area with a swimming pool and health club for residents' use. The complex is half a kilometer from the Ashdod marina. About 25 percent of the project has already been sold at asking prices, ranging from \$128,000 for three-room 94-sq.m. apartments to \$175,000 for five-room 140-sq.m. homes.

■ A four-room 120 sq.m. apartment on Rehov Kashani in Ramat Aviv was sold for \$360,000 by Anglo-Saxon. The apartment, on the fifth floor, is in excellent condition. In Ramat Gan, the agency sold a two-room apartment on Rehov Aminadav for \$133,000.

The 60-sq.m. apartment is on the second floor without an elevator, and has building rights on the roof. On Rehov Boaz, a two-room 55-sq.m. ground floor apartment was sold for \$135,000.

## HAIFA and the north

■ A housing fair for the northern area, from Hadera to Metulla, begins tonight and continues through Thursday at the Haifa International Convention Center. The event, open from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m., is being held in conjunction with a fair on building, renovations, design and planning. Some 2,000 homes of all types, including apartments, penthouses, cottages and single-family homes, will be offered at the fair. Six mortgage banks will also have representatives at the event. Dozens of companies will be displaying materials for renovating the home.

■ Africa-Israel has sold 37 apartments in its Givat Savyonim project in Yokne'am for a total of \$5.5 million. The project, mostly aimed at those eligible for Housing Ministry mortgages, has a total of 108 units, including three- and four-room apartments and six-room cottages. Three-room apartments start at \$123,000, four rooms at \$139,000 and cottages from \$187,000. The company said most of the buyers are young couples from Haifa.

■ A four-room apartment on Rehov Ra'anan in Haifa was sold by Anglo-Saxon for \$187,000. The 100-sq.m. apartment is on the second floor with a panoramic view and has parking and a storage room. On Rehov Hillel, the agency sold a two-and-a-half room apartment for \$87,000. The 70-sq.m. first-floor apartment is renovated and has a view. On Sderot Moriah, a two-room 60-sq.m. apartment on the ground floor in need of renovations was sold for \$149,000.

■ Five half-dunam plots of land were sold over the past two weeks in Nativ Valley, between Zichron Ya'acov and Binyamina, for a total of \$100,000. At present, the lots are designated for agricultural use. The Private Land Development Company said the sales were a result of its offer of payments via credit card. The plots are near the future site of a wine park for tourists. The plots are being marketed via the Dan-City Real Estate in Ra'anana.

## Surfing toward a master's

Bending to meet the needs of corporations that can't spare executives for long absences, top American colleges are offering advanced studies online

By Kimberly Truskowski and Anthony Effinger

When Leo Burnett Co. ad executive Alain Groenendaal got his MBA from Duke University, he spent just five weeks on the college's North Carolina campus. Classmates from Poland and China did the same.

The executives used the Internet to discuss projects, chat with professors and take the tests needed to earn a Master of Business Administration degree. Groenendaal, who travels frequently from his office in Brazil, often put his ideas on Duke's Web page before a business trip and got feedback from classmates by the time he landed.

Duke and other top colleges like Stanford University are making advanced degrees available online, bending to corporations that can't spare executives for long absences.

AT&T Corp., Texas Instruments Inc. and others welcome Internet education because it makes better use of the \$10 billion a year they spend to shuttle employees to training programs and pay for time lost from work. "In the Industrial Age, we went to school. In the Information Age, school comes to us," said Andy DiPaolo, assistant dean of engineering at Palo Alto, California-based Stanford, which offers a master's in engineering on the Net.

With US unemployment at 4.6 percent, the lowest in a quarter century, keeping workers on the job while they get more education is crucial. Each person who leaves a company costs his former employer \$50,000 in lost productivity and training, said Challenger Gray & Christmas, which aids in employment searches.

"The people we're tracking as leaders have a lot of opportunities. If we don't invest in intriguing programs, they'll look elsewhere," said Dennis Gay, director of human resources development at Sea Land Corp., a subsidiary of CSX Corp. Some Sea Land executives are pursuing Duke's online MBA.

Spotting the need, many universities are pushing to get online. Duke spent \$1 million to develop the Fuqua School of Business



Businesses such as AT&T and Texas Instruments welcome Internet education because it makes better use of the \$10 billion a year they spend to shuttle employees to training programs and pay for time lost from work. (Hiroshi Goshima)

Global Executive MBA Program. Ohio University's College of Business offers an "MBA Without Boundaries."

Net-based education is proving lucrative for the pioneers. Shares of Apollo Group Inc., whose University of Phoenix lets students get MBAs and other degrees online, have almost doubled in the past 12 months from around 24 last March to 46 in recent trading. Apollo's sales rose 32 percent to \$279.2 million last year.

Attendance at the University of Phoenix's online education program has as much as doubled in

recent years, compared with 20% increases for its more traditional night-school courses.

AT&T encourages its employees to get MBAs at the University of Phoenix. In addition, AT&T workers can get credit for courses they take at the company when they enroll at the university.

At Texas Instruments, about 7,000 employees are taking online courses, and a handful are getting MBAs.

"It's been wonderful to provide training anytime, anywhere," said Linda Smittle, a human resources manager at the Dallas-based

maker of semiconductors and other electronics.

A challenge for online universities is making sure students don't feel isolated sitting at home with their computers. One of the attractions of business school is developing a network of contacts. Students at Northwestern University's J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management get together almost every Friday for the "T.G." (short for Thank God It's Friday) mixer where they eat, drink and mingle with each other and the faculty.

Ohio University still relies on some face-to-face work. During its two-year MBA program, students do three week-long "residencies" and three long weekends on campus. Duke students must do five residential sessions during the program, two at Duke's Durham campus.

Technology has made online education much richer than the correspondence courses of times past. Office hours with professors are held in Internet chat rooms at predetermined times. Ohio University is using Microsoft Corp.'s Net Meeting software to create videoconferences among students. Stanford videotapes some lectures so a student can view them online.

Richard Stelzin, managing director of the Duke online MBA program, said so-called distance education must have a blend of regular classroom sessions and Internet learning. "Students and teachers may be in different time zones," he said. "There are times when it's very lonely out there."

That was true for Geoff Peters. The vice president at shipping company Sea Land said he struggled with the Duke curriculum at first because he couldn't get immediate answers to questions on course work, the way he could have in a classroom. Then, he realized that the system wasn't that different from work. Peters communicates with Sea Land offices around the world, often waiting until the next morning to get replies.

Electronic education "closely replicates real life," said Peters, who chose to get his MBA online because he knew the company might ask him to move in the midst of the degree. He was right. Sea Land transferred him Holland from Charlotte, North Carolina, at the end of his first term.

Professors say online MBA programs quickly weed out people who aren't motivated. With less structure than classroom programs, it can be hard for students to meet deadlines. The wealth of information on the Internet also is changing the quality and focus of students' work, professors say. "I see more papers rich on content and poor on concept," said Patrick Duparcq, an adjunct professor at Northwestern's Kellogg. "It used to be reversed." (Bloomberg)

## The dawn of a global era

The imminent exchange-rate liberalization, which would allow institutional investors to invest abroad, is likely to revolutionize the way fund managers oversee our money

## MARKET WATCH

By Dan Gerstenfeld

The names of Kimberly-Clark, Zeneca Group, Sumitomo Bank and Mannesmann probably mean very little to local investment managers. But this situation may change very soon.

The implementation of a new series of foreign-currency reforms would force executives of large institutional investors not only to recognize these names, but also to follow their performances closely. Currently, most institutional investors may be well aware of the fact that the list above is comprised of some of the largest world conglomerates, but they probably don't realize that shares of these companies were leading the gains and losses of the New York, London, Tokyo and Frankfurt stock markets last week.

Major announcements made by any of the international leading conglomerates may, in the future, have a direct impact on the results presented by all local institutional investors. The change may take place as soon as the coming Independence Day with the announcement of foreign currency reforms. The exchange-rate liberalization is expected to include, among other things, a permission for institutional investors to invest 5 percent of their assets in overseas markets.

Five percent might seem too insignificant to actually lead to a real change in the investment policy of large local investors, but the move is seen by some analysts as the first step toward a new era. An era in which local funds, who manage billions of shekels, would have to compare possible returns on investments in the local market with those obtained by investing abroad.

If this result is achieved, it will indirectly affect almost each and everyone of us, as most Israelis handle a large part of their savings through those investment funds. Those who allocate part of their monthly salaries to pension funds, provident funds and insurance



companies would benefit from the liberalization.

The first step toward raising the activity of local bodies abroad was taken earlier this year when provident funds were granted permission to raise their investments overseas from 2% to 5%. Insurance companies and pensions funds, which are not allowed currently to invest overseas, are expected to receive a similar approval in the near future. In addition, mutual funds would be allowed to raise their holdings out of Israel from 20% to 100%.

In the past, the main obstacle preventing local companies from investing abroad was taxes. Most institutions were required to pay taxes equivalent to 35% of their profits on these investments. Despite the fact that in many cases investments abroad generated higher returns, even after taxation, than investments in the local market, most institutional investors used this as an excuse to

refrain from investing abroad.

Now it seems that the liberalization of exchange controls will also include a lifting or lowering of the those taxes—a step which is likely to lead to a real change in institutional investment strategy.

ONE OF the first companies to realize the potential of the regulatory changes was Ofek Securities and Investments, which announced last week the opening of a special department for overseas investments.

"The liberalization of the foreign-currency regime creates conditions which would allow the Israeli economy to benefit from the globalization process in much the same way it did when foreign investors entered into the local market," said Nitza Roussou-Shtaubert, CEO of Ofek.

There is a general consensus today that the entrance of the big international investment houses during the last few years led to a real revolution in the field of equi-

ty research. The whole industry changed drastically following the introduction of analyses methods and management tools used by foreign investors.

Roussou-Shtaubert believes that the market would continue to make progress with the introduction of investment abroad. "The liberalization has elements that will turn the market into a more healthy one. It will turn the market into an open and competitive one," she said. "The public's portfolio is not diversified enough. We hope that this will lead to a situation in which the portfolio of the institutional and private investors will be more diversified."

Institutional investors manage currently an estimated NIS 150 billion. If 5%—NIS 7.5b.—of this sum goes into investments abroad, the market is expected to change drastically.

It is well known that portfolio managers and investment managers tend to focus on the local market rather than on the international one, but Roussou-Shtaubert believes that

local investors would still look abroad because the process allows for higher returns and reduced risks.

She says that another positive outcome of such a move is that investors would raise their equity holdings. The local institutional investors, which are known to be very conservative, hold only 18% of their assets in stocks, compared with more than 50% held by foreign institutions.

Another major advantage is that investing abroad would grant investors higher flexibility as the markets abroad offer higher liquidity and lower volatility.

Roussou-Shtaubert believes that in the long run this will also lead to a situation in which part of the public will be able to overcome the traumatic memories connected to the collapse of the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, and return once more to invest in stocks.

Perhaps this is only wishful thinking, but as Mao Tse-Tung once said "even the longest march starts with one little step."

## THE CONFERENCE CIRCUIT

By GREER JAV CASIMAN

**17.3** Israel People and Computers is hosting a seminar at Kfar Hamaccabiah to introduce NGT to people interested in becoming certified Microsoft systems engineers and Microsoft system developers.

**17.3** The Education and Science Ministries in conjunction with the van Leer Institute, Jerusalem, are hosting the fifth conference in the series Fifty Years of Science in Israel. Participants will explore the anthropological, biological and medical findings connected to Israel's ethnic communities.

**18.3** The Second Bar-Ilan University and Universities of Saxony Conference covers a broad swathe of academic studies. During the two-day conference lecturers from BIU and the Technical University Chemnitz will present close to 30 papers on subjects in the fields of physics and chemistry; psychology; life sciences; mathematics and computer sciences; philosophy; and Jewish history.

**18.3** A two-day global investment seminar at the Dan Pearl Hotel, Jerusalem, will be conducted by the Friedberg Mercantile Group, an international money-management firm. Topics listed for discussion include: "Asset allocation in uncertain times"; "Alternative asset investments"; "Hedge funds for qualified offshore investors"; and "Trust services for qualified offshore investors." The seminar, which will be repeated on March 23 at the Tel Aviv Hilton, is free of charge, but reservations are required. Contact Alan Ziegler, (02) 652-4912.

**19.3** Tel Aviv University's Prof. Shimon Shamir, who is a former ambassador to Jordan, will be among the speakers at a symposium on Israel-Jordan Relations - From Conflict to Dialogue. Shamir and other speakers at the symposium taking place at the Students House Conference Hall B at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, will be informed on Israel's relations with the Hashemite Kingdom from strategic and political perspectives; the treaty

between Iraq and Jordan; Egyptian policy toward Jordan between 1956 and 1967; Jordan's place in the Arab world and its policies before and during the Six Day War; and where Israeli-Jordan relations are heading.

**19.3** Political figures from the Arab community will join academics and representatives of the Israel Lands Administration in a symposium on A Question of Lands. The event, which will be held on the 30th floor of the Eshkol Tower at Haifa University, is sponsored by the Jewish-Arab Center, the Gustav Heiman Center for Middle East Research and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation.

**19.3** An international seminar on Information Warfare in the 21st Century: Threats and Responses will be held at Tel Aviv University's Social Science and Management Library, Gate 5, TAU. The seminar will be conducted in conjunction with the Terrorism Studies Program of the George Washington University.

**22.3** The Pinhas Sapir Center for Development at Tel Aviv University, in conjunction with the German-Israeli Foundation for Scientific Research and Development, is holding a two-day conference on Immigrants and their Transition to a New Labor Market. All sessions will be held at TAU's Faculty of Social Sciences, Naftali Building, Hall 527. Speakers from Israeli, American, German, Dutch and Irish universities and research institutions will focus on subjects such as "Economic gains from immigration"; "Effects of increased immigration on wages"; and "The impact of mass immigration on the Israeli labor market."

**23.3** Prof. Michael Swartz of Ohio State University is the guest lecturer of the Ingeborg Rennert Center for Jerusalem Studies at Bar-Ilan University. He will speak on Person and Place in the Description of the Yom Kippur Service in the Temple. The lecture will be held at the Weisfeld Auditorium in the Physics Building of BIU.

Jerusalem Post











# French connection could kill off United's season

## Outraged Newcastle fans call for directors' heads

By MIKE COLLETT

LONDON (Reuters) — Five Frenchmen combined to derail Manchester United's progress to the English title on Saturday. The fear for United fans is that the French champions themselves will shut them into the sidelines as far as the European Cup is concerned tomorrow.

Monaco came to Old Trafford tomorrow for a European Cup quarter-final with United at their lowest ebb of the season.

Monaco manager Jean Tigana watched United crash 1-0 at home to Arsenal on Saturday — leaving five minutes before the end with a smile on his face.

Whether he will still be smiling when he leaves Old Trafford tomorrow is debatable, but Monaco will probably not have a better chance of winning there.

On Saturday Arsenal's French manager Arsene Wenger and French players Emmanuel Petit, Patrick Vieira, and substitutes Nicholas Anelka and Remi Garde all played their part in securing Arsenal's win at Old Trafford courtesy of Dutchman Marc Overmars' 80th minute winner.

Petit, who played for Monaco before joining Arsenal and was out-

standing in Arsenal's victory said afterwards, "Everyone at Arsenal wants United to win tomorrow and still have the distraction of the European Cup while we both fight it out for the league title."

"But it won't be easy for United against Monaco. I felt today that they were very tired physically. They will have to be very careful, especially in defence."

"Monaco will play a counter-attacking game tomorrow and will have to watch out for David Trezeguet who is back from injury and scored against Auxerre the other day."

Arsenal manager Wenger, a former boss of Monaco, was naturally delighted with his team's performance and concentrated on that rather than analyze United's chances of success against his old club.

"I have always believed we can win the title, and now we have our own face back in our own hands," he said.

"We are six points behind United with three matches in hand."

United suffered a big blow today by losing, and I hope we can capitalize on that."

United not only lost vital points but their talismanic captain and goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel who tore a hamstring in the dying minutes trying to catch Dennis Bergkamp after

joining the attack at a United corner. He will not only miss tomorrow's match against Monaco, but will also be out for the next five weeks.

United's injury list is lengthening with Gary Pallister out of the side, and Romy Johnson, Ryan Giggs, Nicky Butt and Phil Neville all doubtful.

For so long this season it seemed United had the title wrapped up — and would breeze into the European Cup semifinals to take on the night of Juventus, Dynamo Kiev, Real Madrid, Bayern Munich or Borussia Dortmund.

The odds of that happening have increased — and although United could bounce back from Saturday's disappointment to win tomorrow, their form has deserted them and their confidence is low.

Arsenal on the other hand, are even beginning to believe they could emulate their golden 1970-71 season by capturing a second League and Cup double.

That dream may only be a short-lived one as they face in-form West Ham at Upton Park in an FA Cup sixth round replay today.

If they lose that, of course, dreams of the double will be short-lived. But if they win then their season could end as remarkably as United's — but for very different reasons.

NEWCASTLE (Reuters) — Newcastle United supporters have called on former chairman Sir John Hall to come out of retirement after a barrage of disturbing allegations about his successor, Freddie Shepherd and son Douglas Hall.

Weekend reports in the *News of the World* and other newspapers alleged the pair — both directors of the club — had ridiculed United fans over the price of replica shirts, described Newcastle women as "dogs" and had sold striker Andy Cole to Manchester United in 1995 knowing he was suffering from a serious injury.

The two men were also alleged to have ridiculed Kevin Keegan, the club's former manager. Alan Shearer, their star striker and said that fans identify with winger Keith Gillespie because he "liked to drink and get into trouble." Manchester United have insisted they were not duped over the £7.0 million sale of Cole — then a British transfer record — and dismissed the story as "total nonsense." United's assistant secretary Ken Ramsden said yesterday: "We knew Andy Cole's medical history and he was given stringent checks."

The revelations have caused outrage amongst fans' representatives on

Tyneside and slashed the club's stock market valuation by around £17 million before shares later rallied.

"Sir John Hall should come back to the club as a temporary measure," said John Regan of the Independent Newcastle United Supporters Association.

"If the allegations are correct, the only recourse for Freddie Shepherd and Douglas Hall are to resign from the board of Newcastle United."

"I believe the allegations are as serious as that. I'm not on any moral crusade. Those issues are for the men and their families to sort out. What worries me more is the actual contempt shown for the fans in the article."

"We all know we're exploited with the price of replica shirts, but we don't need that exploitation rubbed in our faces in the national press."

He formally stood down as chairman last December, but retains the honorary title of President.

## SPORTS

in brief

### Israel rugby team to play Swiss

The national rugby team will play Switzerland the first game of the FIRA (European League) "silver" division at Wingate on March 28 at 19:30.

The other three teams in Israel's division are Yugoslavia, Lithuania and Latvia. Israel will play them all during the course of the year.

In the only game played at the weekend in the local rugby league, Hapoel Netanya thrashed ASA Jerusalem 43-5 at the Tel Aviv Sports.

Netanya did well to score seven tries, by lock Avital Eliasov (2), wing Moshe Cohen, scrum-half Oren Beck, fly-half Darren Pincus, center James Whitmore and flank Julian Shapiro. Jerusalem replied with a try by lock Erez Tal.

On Friday afternoon, a Tel Aviv invitation XV beat the IDF team 21-12. In an under-16 game yesterday, Tivon beat Hadera 24-14.

Joel Gordin

### Caesarea golf

This week's competition at Caesarea golf club was a better ball stableford Nassau tournament.

First place, the team with the best game, went to Jeff Strubel and Yehuda Zilberbuch who had a total of 45 points. Zilberbuch's own triumph was a gross 79, breaking 80 for his first time.

In second place, with the best best back nine, were Harold Stutzen and Ruth Chet with 23 points and Mendi Kliger and Zvi Joseph took third place with 26 points on the front nine.

Heather Chait

### Lee quits as chairman of struggling Man. City

LONDON (Reuters) — Francis Lee resigned as chairman of struggling English first division club Manchester City yesterday.

Lee, who has also quit as a director, will be replaced by another director, David Bernstein, at the helm of the club currently languishing in the relegation zone.

Last month Joe Royle took over from Frank Clark as manager at the club but Lee has remained under fierce criticism from the fans as the team continued to flounder on the pitch.

### Calcavecchia wins despite cut finger

CORAL SPRINGS, Fla. (Reuters) — Mark Calcavecchia put his cut finger back together with glue and a bandage before taking a grip on victory at the \$1.8 million Honda Classic Sunday.

Calcavecchia was cutting some threads off his pants before the final round when his scissors slipped and sliced through his left index finger.

"I was panicking but the super glue must have done the trick," said Calcavecchia, who shot a flawless seven-under-par 65 for a three-shot win in perfect conditions on the Heron Bay TPC course. He was tied for the lead with Vijay Singh after 11 holes, but birdied five of the final seven holes to finish at 18-under 270.

### Iranians back in France after 22 years

RENNES (Reuters) — Iran, who last played in France 22 years ago, are the first of the 1998 World Cup finalists to go on a practice tour of the country ahead of the June-July tournament.

The Iranians, who drew 1-1 with France in Toulouse in 1976, will play three games against French first division sides during their tour, starting with En Avant Guingamp today.

An Iranian embassy official said Iran had chosen to spend most of their tour in Brittany because of the good economic relations the middle eastern country has with the region.

Iran, in the World Cup finals for the first time since 1978 in Argentina, are scheduled to play Nantes on Friday and then travel south for a match against Montpellier on Sunday.

## Juve held, Kaiserslautern heading for German title

LONDON (Reuters) — Juventus were held to a 2-2 draw by 10-man Napoli, the bottom club in Italy at the weekend as most European leagues approached the final straight in the race to the title. Kaiserslautern looked increasingly likely to be the first promoted club to win the Bundesliga since the league was created in 1963.

Real Madrid will need something special to stop Barcelona winning the Spanish league after the Catalan club beat Valladolid 2-1 to go seven points clear.

Ajax Amsterdam have all but wrapped up the Dutch championship but the Italian, English, Scottish and French leagues are still wide open.

SPAIN — Luis Figo's goal three minutes into injury time gave Barcelona a controversial 2-1 victory at Valladolid and extended their lead at the top to seven points.

Barcelona have 58 points from 28 matches. Real Madrid are second with 51 points and have played one game more.

Real Madrid could only draw 2-2 with Racing Santander on Saturday. Barcelona have now gone 12 league and Cup matches without defeat.

Three minutes of injury time had elapsed when Barcelona goalkeeper Raul Hesp booted the ball upfield.

Giovanni and then Rivaldo headed forward and a miscued shot from Dragan Covic spun to the feet of Figo, who shot low and hard to the right of Cesar.

Valladolid players protested vehemently that Rivaldo had fouled their Brazilian defender Julio Cesar Santos while going for the ball but the goal stood. Cesar also got shown the red card for dissent.

Celta Vigo wasted a chance to close the gap on Barcelona and Real when they were held to a 0-0 draw by struggling Tenerife.

They stay in third place with 48 points.

GERMANY — Runaway leaders Kaiserslautern moved nine points clear of crisis-hit Bayern Munich with a 1-0 win over TSV 1860 Munich, and Bayern coach Giovanni Trapattoni admitted his side had no chance of retaining the title.

Bayern, who had lost their last three league matches, could only manage a goalless draw at home to lowly VfL Bochum which put them on 48 points compared to Kaiserslautern's 57.

Kaiserslautern moved in front just before halftime thanks to a brilliant goal by Brazilian Ratinho.

Bayer Leverkusen extended their unbeaten run to 19 matches with a 1-1 draw at MSV Duisburg and are only two points behind Bayern and in contention for the second berth

in next season's Champions' League. ITALY — Bottom club Napoli threw Italy's title race wide open when they held leaders Juventus to a shock 2-2 draw.

The surprise for Juventus coincided with title contenders Lazio and Inter Milan both steam-rolling to 4-0 victories over Sampdoria and Atalanta Bergamo. Ronaldo was among the Inter scorers.

Juventus were heading towards a hard-fought home win when, with seconds left, striker Igor Protti stunned 44,500 fans in Turin with a goal on the counter-attack.

The draw cut Juve's lead over Lazio to just two points with nine matches left, with Inter a further point back. Juve coach Marcello Lippi said he might be losing his touch after his players ignored warnings not to be complacent against Napoli.

Udinese are fourth on 46 points, seven behind Juventus after beating Piacenza 2-0 but Parma missed their chance to join the title-chasing pack when they lost 2-0 at struggling Empoli.

NETHERLANDS — Ajax scored six goals to beat bottom side Voleendam 6-1 and continue their inexorable march towards a 27th league title.

With 10 matches to play, Ajax are 12 points clear of second-placed PSV Eindhoven.

Reigning champions PSV beat RKC Waalwijk 1-0.

The victory was a boost for the Amsterdam team ahead of the UEFA Cup quarter-final return match away against Spartak Moscow.

Ajax lost the first leg at home 3-1.

The match also saw the return of striker Jari Litmanen, who played the last 20 minutes of the match after a long absence due to injury.

FRANCE — Leaders Metz beat Montpellier 1-0 and Monaco virtually lost all chance of retaining the title after a 3-1 defeat at Auxerre on Friday.

Metz defender Cyril Semedszum dived to head home a corner from the right by French international Robert Pires seven minutes from time.

The home side had the ball in the Metz net in injury time but the equaliser was disallowed for obstruction on goalkeeper Lionel Letizi.

Metz, with 56 points, are one point ahead of RC Lens, who beat Paris St Germain 3-0. Olympique Marseille beat Bastia 1-0 and are two points further back while fourth-placed Monaco are seven adrift of Metz.

AJ Auxerre striker Steve Marlet scored once in each half as Monaco, who play Manchester United on Wednesday, fell 3-0 behind after 65 minutes.

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CITROEN XANTIA 1995, 1.8 Liters, 19,900 km., all powers, automatic, air conditioning, alarm, CD player, like new \$3,600. Tel. 09-832-1760. (7/91550)  
BMW 318Ti, Dec. 1995, 34,000 km., excellent condition, diplomatic car, green metallic, ABS, A/C, air bags, radio-cassette, etc. Tel. 09-950-0686 (after 4 p.m.). (7/91583)  
**VEHICLES**  
Sharon Area  
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1994 GRAND CHEROKEE, white, automatic, stereo, air-conditioning, full leather, very clean + outstanding 4x4. Trade in car or cash. Colin. Tel. 052-423327, 09-742-9517.

**VEHICLES**  
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1992 GOLF 3 door, red, 1.8, power-steering, air conditioning, tourist only, very nice car, 53,000 km., \$5,900, quick sale, radio-tape. Colin. Tel. 09-742-9517, 052-423327. (7/90705)  
1997 VOLKSWAGEN POLO, automatic, 7200, power steering / windows, ABS brakes, air conditioning, central locking, alarm, immobilizer, airbags, stereo, CD changer, excellent condition. Tel. 09-557-4012. (7/91717)  
1993 - 4 BMW 325i, metallic maroon, first hand, manual, air conditioned, power steering, sun roof, outstanding car. Available April. Colin. Tel. 09-742-22617, Tel. 052-423-527. (7/91971)  
**UNRESTRICTED**  
FM BUYING SELLING trading tax free and unrestricted cars, tourist immigrants diplomats - anyone who wants a good price. Shipping 2 ways. Free Coll. Tel. 09-742-9517, 052-423-327. (7/91972)  
**VEHICLES**  
Haifa and North  
**PASSPORT**  
TOYOTA HILUX TENDER, 1995, double cabin, 46,000 NIS + VAT. Tel. 04-281-0085 (w). (7/91976)

**VEHICLES**  
Haifa and North  
**UNRESTRICTED**  
MITSUBISHI LANCER GLX, 1992, station, automatic, one owner, book price. Karmel. Tel. 04-988-4572. (7/90711)  
AUSTIN METRO 1300 model 1990, 83HP with strong air conditioner, first owner, 70,000 km., Tel/Fax: 04-824-2115.

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n Boston, he was fined \$697,810, or 18 months in prison, for skimming the pensions and salaries of players he once represented.

A day earlier in Boston, he was fined \$697,810, or \$1 million Canadian, for skimming the pensioners' disability benefits.

disability insurance of players he once represented.







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## Man. Utd. held up by French connection

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## Sports Editors

Joe Hoffman &amp; Ori Lewis

## Gascoigne left out of England squad

LONDON (Reuters) — Paul Gascoigne was left out of a 26-man England squad named by coach Glenn Hoddle for a friendly international against Switzerland in Bern next Wednesday.

Gascoigne, who will be 31 in May, has only played one full match in the last three months, and has recently been the subject of transfer speculation linking him with a move from Glasgow Rangers to either Crystal Palace or Middlesbrough.

Hoddle was due to address a news conference late yesterday and was expected to explain Gascoigne's omission.

While Gascoigne was missing, there was a place for Middlesbrough's inspirational midfielder Paul Merson who has battled back from drug, drinking and gambling addictions to re-establish his career at the top.

Merson, who will be 30 on Friday, last played for England as a substitute against Italy 13 months ago, but has shown outstanding form for Middlesbrough in their promotion bid back to the premier league since his £5 million move from Arsenal last summer.

Squad: Goalkeepers: Nigel Martyn (Leeds United), Tim Flowers (Blackburn Rovers), Kevin Pressman (Sheffield Wednesday). Defenders: Sol Campbell (Tottenham), Martin Keown (Arsenal), Gary Neville (Manchester United), Tony Adams (Arsenal), Andy Hinchcliffe (Sheffield Wednesday), Gareth Southgate (Aston Villa), Rio Ferdinand (West Ham), Philip Neville (Man Utd), Graeme Le Saux (Chelsea).

Midfield: Ray Parlour (Arsenal), Paul Merson (Middlesbrough), Paul Ince (Liverpool), David Batty (Newcastle), David Beckham (Man Utd), Robert Lee (Newcastle).

Forwards: Paul Scholes (Man Utd), Steve McManaman (Liverpool), Nicky Butt (Man Utd), Alan Shearer (Newcastle), Michael Owen (Liverpool), Dion Dublin (Coventry), Andy Cole (Man Utd), Teddy Sheringham (Man Utd).

## Blatter's future to be clear soon

ZURICH (Reuters) — FIFA General Secretary Sepp Blatter will reveal by the end of this month whether he will run for president of soccer's world governing body, he told a Swiss newspaper.

Coy as ever about whether he would put himself forward as a candidate in June's election to succeed FIFA President Joao Havelange if nominated by a national association, Blatter told the *Sonnings Zeitung* Sunday paper the world would not have to wait until the deadline of April 7 to find out his plans.

"I will not wait this long. Everything will be clear by the end of March," he told the newspaper.

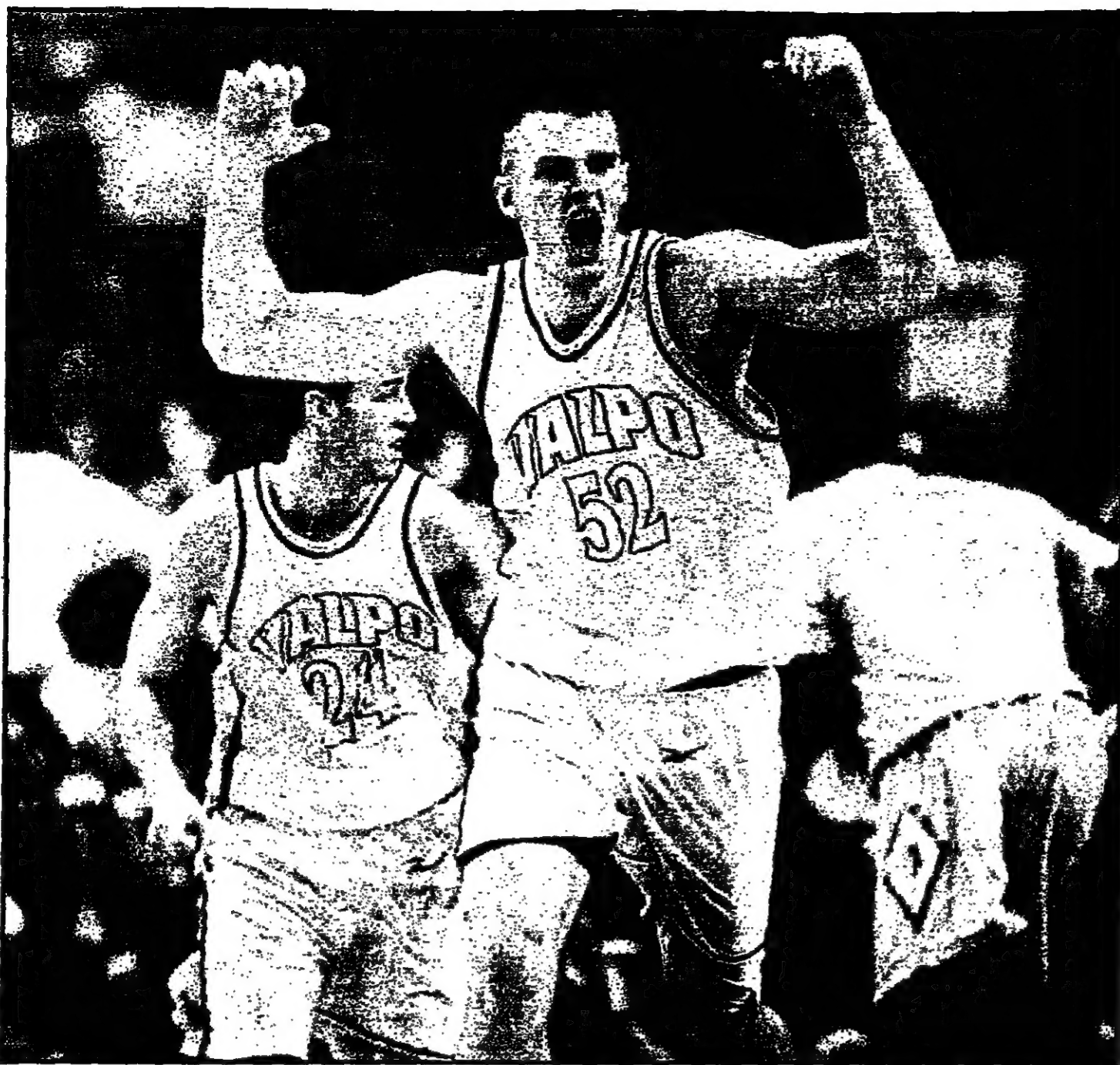
Blatter's contract as FIFA general secretary comes to an end at the end of 1998, so although there is likely to be a new General Secretary shortly in any case, the intrigue is whether that man will be of Blatter's choosing as FIFA president — or chosen by Lennart Johansson, the only man to so far declare his candidature for the vote.

"You will know more at the end of the month, and then there would still be a way to go," he said with a laugh.

FIFA was thrown into confusion on Friday when Havelange and Blatter stormed out of an executive committee meeting before a vote could be taken on Blatter's future.

Blatter can only stand if one of FIFA's national associations backs him. At issue was the highly contentious matter of his future as general secretary if he declares his plans to replace Havelange.

The 82-year-old Brazilian retires after 24 years in office later this year.



THAT WINNING FEELING — Valparaiso University center Antanas Viliuskas runs the floor celebrating a layup which put his team four points up in overtime over Florida State. The 13th seeded Valparaiso won 83-77.

## Rhode Island upsets Kansas for Sweet 16 berth

NEW YORK (AP) — One game will be a family affair. Another will feature two schools with a total of 17 national championships. And another will be a dogfight between Huskies.

Rhode Island-Valparaiso, UCLA-Kentucky and Connecticut-Washington are among the eight matchups in the final 16 of the NCAA tournament.

The most intriguing game might be eighth-seeded Rhode Island vs. No. 13 Valparaiso on Friday night. Rhode Island is coached by Jim Harrick, who led UCLA to the national title in 1995, but was fired after the following season. Harrick's son, Jim Jr., is an assistant to Valparaiso coach Homer Drew, whose star player is his son Bryce.

Rhode Island upset top-seeded Kansas 80-75 Sunday in the Midwest Regional to reach the final 16 for the second time in school history. Earlier on the same court in Oklahoma City, Valparaiso beat 12th-seeded Florida State 83-77 in overtime to send the smallest school in the tournament to the regional semifinals.

"Nobody gave us a chance," said Jamie Sykes, who scored 19 points for Valparaiso. "Now we can say we are in the Sweet 16."

This is beautiful. You just want to cry. Nobody knew us and now people are trying to buy Valpo shirts off us." In other Midwest Regional games Sunday, Stanford beat Western Michigan 83-65 and Purdue defeated Detroit 80-65.

In the South Regional, Duke beat Oklahoma State 79-73, Syracuse downed New Mexico 56-46, Kentucky routed Saint Louis 88-61.

NCAA Tournament Glance. (All Times EST)

**EAST REGIONAL**  
First Round  
North Carolina 77, Illinois-Chicago 62  
Purdue 83, UNLV 57  
Michigan State 77, Eastern Michigan 71  
Washington 69, Xavier 68  
Richmond 62, South Carolina 61  
Indiana 64, Oklahoma State 57 (OT)  
Connecticut 93, Fairleigh Dickinson 55  
Second Round  
North Carolina 70, North Carolina Charlotte 83 (OT)  
Michigan State 53, Princeton 56  
Washington 51, Richmond 68  
Connecticut 78, Indiana 68  
Regional Semifinals  
At Greensboro Coliseum  
Thursday, March 19  
North Carolina (32-3) vs. Michigan State (22-7), 7:30 p.m.

**SOUTH REGIONAL**  
First Round  
Syracuse 63, Iowa 61  
New Mexico 79, Butler 62  
Oklahoma State 74, George Washington 59  
Duke 99, Radford 63  
Kentucky 82, South Carolina State 67  
Saint Louis 61, Massachusetts 46  
Purdue 80, Davidson 61  
UCLA 65, Miami 62  
Second Round  
Duke 79, Oklahoma State 73  
Syracuse 56, New Mexico 46  
Purdue 80, Saint Louis 51  
UCLA 65, Michigan 52  
Regional Semifinals  
At Tropicana Field, St. Petersburg, Fla.  
Friday, March 20  
Duke (31-3) vs. Syracuse (26-6), 7:23 p.m.

**MIDWEST REGIONAL**  
First Round  
Valparaiso 73, Mississippi 68  
Florida State 66, Texas Christian 57  
Rhode Island 87, Murray State 74  
Kansas 110, Prairie View 52  
Western Michigan 75, Clemson 72  
Stanford 67, College of Charleston 57  
Purdue 95, Delaware 66  
Detroit 66, St. John's 64  
Second Round  
Valparaiso 83, Florida State 77  
Rhode Island 80, Kansas 75  
Stanford 65, Western Michigan 66  
Purdue 80, Detroit 66  
Regional Semifinals  
At The Kiel Center, St. Louis  
Friday, March 20  
Purdue (29-7) vs. Stanford (28-4), 8:05 p.m.  
Rhode Island (24-8) vs. Valparaiso (23-9), 10:25 p.m.

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Second Round  
Maryland 67, Rhode Island 61  
Arizona 82, North Carolina 49  
West Virginia 75, Cincinnati 74  
Utah 75, Arkansas 69  
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Arizona (22-4) vs. Maryland (21-10), 10:25 p.m.

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North Carolina 84, South Carolina 51  
Rhode Island 82, Tennessee 61 (OT)  
Arizona 59, Wichita State 52  
West Virginia 82, Temple 52  
Cincinnati 66, North Carolina State 62  
Utah 65, San Francisco 66  
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